

The Middlebury Campus

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Chance the Rapper Lyrics Spark Student Animosity

By Leah Lavigne

At the age of 20, most people are still thinking about what they want to do when they "grow up." This is not the case with up-and-coming musician Chancelor Bennett, who is by no definition 'most people.' Better known by his stage name Chance the Rapper, the Chicago born hip-hop artist is riding his growing momentum on The Social Experiment Tour, which stops at the College on Nov. 2.

But the concert created as much controversy as excitement, centering around an initial lack of tickets and an ongoing uproar over perceived misogyny and homophobia in his lyrics. In response, the administration asked Chance not to sing "Favorite Song," which contains the controversial lyric "Slap happy faggot slapper." According to Dean of the College Shirley Colado, Chance has agreed to refrain from performing the song.

Releasing his first mixtape, 10 Day, after a ten day suspension during his senior year of high school, Chance soon garnered 80,000 downloads and the attention of Forbes magazine, which featured 10 Day in their 'Cheap

Tunes' column. This growing recognition landed Chance a spot opening for fellow rapper Childish Gambino on tour, and spurred further collaborations with rappers Hoodie Allen and Joey Bada\$\$\$. Acid Rap, Chance's second mixtape released in April of this year, has already achieved 250,000 downloads and catapulted the rapper into wider national recognition. Featuring other artists such as Twista, Vic Mensa and Action Bronson, Acid Rap received critical acclaim and a BET Hip Hop Award nomination for best mixtape, landing him a spot on the famous Lollapalooza festival.

Will Brennan '16 grew up in Chicago and attended school just a few train stops away from Chance's school, Jones College Prep, learning of the rapper's huge ambitions through mutual musical friends.

"He and other rappers on the Save Money label like Vic Mensa were making singles and dropping mixtapes left and right," Brennan said. "But when I left Chicago I had no idea that Chance would make it as big as he has in recent

months."

The Middlebury College Activities Board, or MCAB, chose the fall concert because of demonstrated student interest in more rap and hip-hop and Chance's up-and-coming potential, according to MCAB President Elizabeth Pouhey. Chance's music was relatively well known on campus before his appearance was announced, discovered through the internet or on WRMC. Will Brennan started playing Chance on his own WRMC show because of the home connection, but became a much bigger fan after the release of Acid Rap.

"His jazz harmonies and electronic beats made a really interesting combination that I had never heard before," Brennan said. "I didn't know what to think of his squawkish noises at first, but I realized it was a part of his playful nature as a musician. I think Chance makes music that is ultimately true to himself and more importantly true to the environment in which he surrounds himself in Chicago."

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"ROOM FOR RENT" IS MOVING ON UP



SLEEPLESS IN BURLINGTON

Benjamin Kramer '14 and a group of students won "Best Film" and "Audience Choice" for their short thriller "Room for Rent" at the "Sleepless in Burlington" film festival on Oct. 20.

Voluntary Leave Numbers Spike

By Emily Singer

An unusually high number of students at the College have decided to take a voluntary leave of absence this semester, leaving administrators with more questions than answers about the significant change.

59 sophomores, juniors and seniors are currently taking a voluntary leave of absence. The number does not include students who declared a leave of absence after the start of the fall semester for medical, family-related or other personal reasons. The data, compiled by the five Commons Deans, notes the reason for a student's leave of absence,

but does not display any noticeable trend in terms of reasons or motivations for taking time off.

"There is no pattern, and that's what's so interesting," said Dean of Students Katy Smith Abbott, who has been working with Commons Deans and fellow administrators to analyze the data. "We thought we might see a lot of students citing academic stress, needing time away, or financial pressures, or needing to work. I don't know what we thought we'd see exactly, but we thought we'd see more of a trend and it's really all over the place."

While the specific information

about voluntary leaves of absence is confidential under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), Smith Abbott cited training with an Olympic team, extending a study abroad program, international students spending time with family in a home country, medical withdrawal for surgery and working on a farm in an unusual location as among the reasons why students have chosen to take time off.

The administration believes that further investigation into the spike is necessary for a better understanding of the change. The majority of

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POWER SHIFTING IN THE STEEL CITY



ZANE ANTHONY

Students attend the biannual Powershift climate conference in Pittsburgh, PA during fall break to protest pollution, fracking and fossil fuels, as well as to discuss ways to encourage the spread of clean energy use. The 200 discussion panels and workshops engaged students and climate change activists.

One-in-three Report Cheating Last Year

By Jessica Cheung

Midway through a semester of routine cheating, an economics professor told Billy – whose name has been changed to protect his identity – and his friends to write down their names and where they sat in the examination room. The professor's unvarnished command plunged Billy into an emotional apocalypse.

"We had been going overboard with the cheating. That whole week we were freaking out – what are we going to tell our parents? What are we going to do?"

Billy and three other friends had sat in a line together, the smarter of his friend passing solutions down the line. In a class of 25 students in Warner Science Building and no proctor, Billy would copy the answers from his friend to the left and down the line the answers went. With little effort to conceal their shifting eyes.

Even as he was in crisis, the thought of self-reporting never crossed his mind.

"We were absolutely sure it was 100 percent us," he recalled. "There was no good reason to report it. If it was coming out we'll hear about it within the next few days. I thought about telling my parents, just because I couldn't keep it to myself, but I had my friends."

But the twists just keep coming. They overheard later that week that it was, in fact, another group of guys in that same exam room that got caught cheating – not Billy and his friends. "My guess is that someone pointed

them out. It shows the prevalence of cheating on campus. In a class of about 25 students, pretty much half the class cheated in that exam room."

"It was a huge wake-up call," Billy said, throwing his hands down in one of the few statements he made without stumbling through words like pretty much or I guess. "We were saying to each other that we will never cheat again and that we'll just take the F." But even after nearly getting derailed, he admits that the experience "didn't completely reverse" his cheating habit.

What makes Billy's story so compelling is that he is emblematic of a larger trend.

According to a survey last spring conducted by Craig Thompson '14 for his Economics of Sin class, 35 percent of the 377 surveyed students admitted to violating the Honor Code at least once in the past academic year (2012-13), the latest volley of cheating allegations landing on Associate Dean for Judicial Affairs Karen Guttentag's desk just last week. But 97 percent of the self-admitted Honor Code violators in his survey went uncaught.

"If I were to take those numbers at face value, I'd be very concerned about what it means for us and what it means for the student body," said President of the College Ronald D. Liebowitz, who admitted to bringing cheating charges against students as a professor. "I've been here for 30 years and I've always been concerned about the veracity of honor codes like the one we have."

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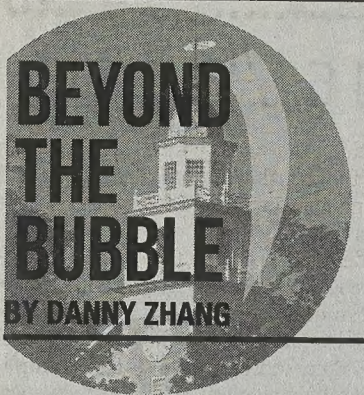
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A WRAP-UP OF THE 'COOON' STORYTELLING EVENT
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The firestorm of controversy set off by Edward Snowden several months ago over the surveillance operations of the National Security Agency (NSA) re-erupted last week when media sources in Germany and France reported intrusive NSA surveillance against America's closest European allies.

Le Monde, a leading French newspaper, reported pervasive NSA surveillance operations against French citizens and diplomats while *Der Spiegel*, a German publication, claimed that the NSA had been monitoring Chancellor Angela Merkel's cellphone communications for some time.

These allegations shook the trans-Atlantic diplomatic community. Chancellor Merkel, known to be an avid user of her mobile phone, called the White House to express her anger. President Obama assured her that the United States is not spying and will not spy on her, without explicitly acknowledging any possibly related events that occurred in the past.

This is not the first time a world leader has expressed anger at the NSA's surveillance operations. Last month, President Dilma Rousseff of Brazil postponed a state visit to Washington after discovering that the NSA had spied on her, her advisors and state-owned oil enterprise Petrobras.

While the diplomatic tensions between the U.S. and countries like Brazil and Russia caused by Snowden's revelations are serious, the latest reports of the NSA operations in Europe are eroding trust between decades-old allies. Chancellor Merkel and French President François Hollande both called NSA actions "unacceptable" and "out of control."

Meeting face-to-face at a European Union (E.U.) summit in Brussels last week, the two leaders demanded talks with the U.S. over rules of intelligence gathering and security service behavior. Lower level officials from both Germany and France were planning to visit Washington this week to discuss the issue with American counterparts. Merkel and Hollande demanded action from the U.S. on reining in its surveillance programs by the end of the year. According to various media reports, Chancellor Merkel is just one of 35 world leaders whose lines of communication had been compromised by NSA operations.

Other leaders at the E.U. summit supported taking action at a supra-national level to combat "out of control" spying, though it was unclear what those actions would entail. In the United Nations, German and Brazilian diplomats are also working to draft a resolution calling for rights of Internet privacy. Though non-binding and general in nature, the resolution is targeted towards the United States.

Great Britain has been caught awkwardly in the crossfire between the United States and the rest of the E.U. in the controversy over surveillance programs. Though technically a member of the European Union, Great Britain participates in an intelligence-sharing group between of the United States, Canada, Australia and New Zealand. These five nations have agreed not to spy on each other in exchange for the open flow of intelligence information. In addition, Great Britain's equivalent of the NSA, the Government Communications Headquarters (GCHQ) is also alleged to participate in a pervasive surveillance program.

The allegation of NSA spying hits especially close to home for Germany. For several decades, Big Brother-style monitoring of German citizens was the norm under the Nazi regime and later, the East German Stasi. Chancellor Merkel is herself a native of East Germany.

This diplomatic rift between the U.S. and its European allies comes just as negotiations have begun on a trans-Atlantic free trade agreement. The breakdown of trust between the two sides is anticipated to have an impact on the pace and terms of those talks.

Trustees Talk Restructuring, Goals

By Mitchell Perry

The Middlebury College Board of Trustees convened over fall break for their first meeting of the academic year. The biannual meeting traditionally consists of setting an agenda for the year and hearing presentations from various committees and student representatives.

President of the College Ronald D. Liebowitz called this year's meetings "different" because the College is in the midst of a nine month process of governance review.

"[We are] restructuring the board to make it more reflective of the institution that we've become," Liebowitz said.

The board has six weeks to reflect on and refine recommendations made by the special committee — dubbed the governance review group — before a potential vote on their proposals at the December meeting.

The weekend began on Thursday, Oct. 17, with an all-afternoon retreat at Taproot — the 337-acre gift to the College by alumnus and trustee emeritus Will Jackson '51 and his wife Carolyn Jackson '61 and concluded with an early dinner before a full day of committee meetings on Friday, Oct. 18.

Friday meetings began with the Educational Affairs Committee that discussed admissions and the evolution of liberal arts. The

trustees then agreed to the establishment of a MA program in Hebrew, which will be taught at the College's summer language schools.

That afternoon, the Student Affairs Committee assembled to hear presentations from SGA President Rachel Liddell and Community Council Co-Chair Luke Carroll Brown.

"I was focused on giving the trustees an honest, pointed, and relevant update on the SGA," said Liddell. "I also wanted to give them a real-student perspective, as opposed to the student perspective through the lens of the administration."

In her discussion with the Trustees, Liddell updated them on her work thus far which has focused on enacting a policy that allows students to receive credit for summer internships, among other things. This has been a focus of Liddell's since her campaign for SGA President. She then informed the Trustees on actions taken to increase sustainable food in the dining halls and the challenges of defining and sourcing this it.

Brown subsequently spoke to the importance of the Community Council in creating non-academic policy change. The Community Council is comprised of faculty, staff, administrators and students and is dedicated to addressing concerns of the whole community.

"We discussed a few of the larger issues facing the Community Council: hard alcohol policy, the potential use of surveillance cameras, and how to promote increased student/staff interaction," Brown said.

Both Liddell and Brown found the experience to be a positive one. Liddell wrote of the Trustees, "They asked excellent questions, and clearly cared about my answers. I felt like a valuable member of the conversation."

Brown echoed Liddell's sentiments, "Students, administrators, and the Trustees each brought different backgrounds and skill sets to the table. Having all of us together led to interesting, dynamic conversation."

Prior to the Trustee's arrival, there was growing sentiment to increase opportunities for student-Trustee interaction — even prompting *The Campus* to call on the Trustees expand direct engagement with students.

"I think one of the things that came out in the governance working group's work is that more Trustee involvement with students, faculty and staff can only be a positive thing," Liebowitz said. He went on to explain that this includes Trustees and students having discussions on the direction of Middlebury as an institution and promoting the role of Trustees as a network for student resources.

Students Rekindle Divestment Fire

By David Yang

On Thursday, Oct. 10, student organization Divest Middlebury held its first organized meeting of the academic year. The event confirmed that student interest in the divestment movement is still alive and well on campus, in spite of an email sent by President of the College Ronald D. Liebowitz over the summer rejecting immediate divestment.

During the 2012-2013 academic year, a series of protests, panels and discussions were organized by students with the goal of encouraging the College's Board of Trustees to divest the College's endowment from companies that deal with fossil fuels.

An email sent by Liebowitz to the student body on Aug. 28 announced that, at present, the College cannot divest from companies in the fossil fuel sector.

"At this time, too many of these questions either raise serious concerns or remain unanswered for the board to support divestment," Liebowitz wrote. "Given its fiduciary responsibilities, the board cannot look past the lack of proven alternative investment models, the difficulty and material cost of withdrawing from a complex portfolio of investments, and the uncertainties and risks that divestment would create."

In the wake of the President's email, members of Divest Middlebury are now seeking new and different angles from which to approach divestment. Despite the College's refusal of immediate divestment, those involved in the

movement on campus remain optimistic.

"It gave legitimacy to the campaign," said Adrian Leong '16, one of Divest Middlebury's leaders, with regard to Liebowitz's email. "It showed that the campaign actually made a difference... This whole promise that he made in his email is really significant to the revolution of our endowment policies."

With renewed optimism, students groups such as the Socially Responsible Investment (SRI) Club and Divest Middlebury have held events that aim to argue for divestment in a new way. The Oct. 10 Divest Middlebury event sought to introduce those unfamiliar with the concept of divestment to the movement. The number of students in attendance, however, was unimpressive.

"Only a handful of people who were not involved with the movement came and asked us questions," Leong said. "It shows that we have a lot of outreach to do."

After a meeting on Friday, Oct. 17, the College's Board of Trustees was confronted with SRI and Divest Middlebury students holding "open office hours" outside of Old Chapel.

"Something we are really interested in is having face to face conversations with trustees about divestment," said SRI co-president Jeannie Bartlett '15. "We are hopeful that in the February trustee meeting they might hold open office hours, but since we did not get to have that for right now, we decided to have student open office hours."

"This whole promise that he made in his email is really significant to the revolution of our endowment policies."

ADRIAN LEONG '16
DIVEST MIDDLEBURY MEMBER

Staff Award Recipients Revealed

By Nate Sans

Four staff members at the College were honored with Staff Recognition Awards last week. This year's award recipients were selected by the 2012 Staff Recognition Award winners based on recommendations from colleagues praising their service to the College in leadership, stewardship, attitude and community service.

The four winners of the 2012 Staff Recognition Award selected Interim Director of the Center for Careers and Internships Peggy Burns, Catering and Convenience Food Coordinator Nancy Parsons, Laboratory Stores Manager Tom Sheluga and Space Manager Mary Carr Stanley to receive the honor this year.

The staff recognition awards are endowed by Professor Emeritus of Sociology Rudolf K. Haerle and recognize the importance of the role the staff plays in the College's daily functions. Last year's award winners, Custodial Team Leader Cindy Leno, Coordinator for Community-Based Environmental Stud-

ies Diane Munroe, Commons Dining Room Manager Brent Simons and Director of Student Fellowships and Health Professions Advising Arlinda Wickland, decided collectively on the winners of the 2013 award.

In an email, Munroe wrote that the guidelines for the award established by Haerle stipulate that the award must recognize one Dining Services staff member and one Facilities Services staff member, but the other two recipients can come from any other department of the College. Staff members submitted written nominations for their colleagues based on their work in areas of leadership, stewardship, attitude, and community service to be reviewed by the 2012 award recipients.

"It was a pleasure to read through all of the nominations and learn about all of the fantastic efforts of our dedicated staff, and many more than four people could have received this award," Munroe said.

She noted that the winners of this year's award demonstrated "above and beyond"

conduct in the areas of evaluation.

Simons added that in evaluating the nominations for the award, previous winners also considered the number of years the nominee had spent in service at the College.

The staff members who won the award this year learned of their recognition several weeks ago, and all reported to be surprised and honored.

"Because I was chosen by my peers, it is even more gratifying," Burns wrote in an email.

Stanley also wrote that she was honored to be chosen by her colleagues for recognition.

"The award is special in that it represents peer support and recognizes hard work and dedication of staff to Middlebury College," Stanley said. "As I look at the plaques of others who have received the award, I feel humbled, grateful and proud to be included in this special group of people."

A reception for the award recipients and their colleagues will be held on Oct. 30 in Crossroads.

More Students Pause Studies for Time Away

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

instances of students taking time off, however, can be divided into two groups: a need for personal recuperation due to academic pressures, and a desire to pursue opportunities related to post-graduate plans.

Both President of the College Ronald D. Liebowitz and Dean of the College Shirley Collado cited burnout as possibly influencing the spike.

"I wouldn't be surprised if, in some ways, what we're seeing is a reaction to how difficult it is to get here," Liebowitz said. "Another thing is that we'd like to look into what the reasons are. Is the workload excessive? Is the atmosphere in some way not what students thought? We want to be open-minded about what the causes are."

After taking a leave of absence last spring to work in Burlington, Lucy Whipps, admitted to the class of 2014, decided to extend her leave of absence into the fall semester.

"I needed a break to get my bearings about what I'm doing in college in the first place, and I was feeling less and less like Middlebury is a place where I want to be in general," Whipps said, noting that she is unsure whether she will re-enroll in February.

While Smith Abbott acknowledged that academic pressure can contribute to a student's decision to take time off, she cited the College's recent emphasis on experiential learning and entrepreneurship through programs such as MiddCORE and the Center for Social Entrepreneurship as additional influencing factors.

"As our language as an institution becomes more about student innovation, students charting their own course and developing ways of mapping their education [in a way] that really resonates with them and supports

who they want to become ... is there something about that ethos that we're creating at Middlebury that means we're going to see more of this?" Smith Abbott mused, citing the unlikelihood of a school adhering to a more traditional definition of the liberal arts as experiencing a similar spike.

Collado echoed Smith Abbott's feelings, citing students' diverse ideas and desires as pushing them to explore relevant work and life experiences before returning to the College.

"The thing about college is that you're kind of just going along this course and trying to figure things out, and sometimes students need space to figure things out," Collado said. "I see that as a life skill."

Unresolved medical issues led Madie Hubbell '14.5 to take a leave of absence in the middle of her Junior fall semester, and while she wasn't initially planning to take time off, she has returned to campus with a different outlook on her college experience.

"Coming here, I actually think I have learned more about myself ... than I have academically. The environment at Middlebury is like nothing else I have ever experienced. It's intense academically, socially and athletically, and it's filled with really intense people," Hubbell wrote in an email, adding that time off allowed her to realize that "there is life outside of college, and while school is important, so is your health and your well-being."

Smith Abbott went so far as to call the sudden spike a "new version of the gap year," allowing students to take the time to enrich their college experience, take ownership of their

education and chart new territory with once-in-a-lifetime opportunities.

"I think Middlebury is a place that encourages students to think creatively and expansively about how they're putting their education together, and I think we're just starting to get better at that," Smith Abbott said, citing the College as being especially encouraging and accommodating in such situations.

Lander Karath '14.5 took a leave of absence during the fall semester of his Junior year to work on the Obama presidential campaign, but his decision was not without hesitation and a fear of missing out on life at the College.

SHIRLEY COLLADO
DEAN OF THE COLLEGE

"I had felt extremely bogged down with academia in my first two years here and I was craving hands-on, practical experience," Karath said. "The campaign work provided that for me and more. Even though I had moved from one high-stress environment to another, I felt like I was doing something that enriched my life, which was a feeling I never had at Middlebury," adding that the campaign led him to realize the career path he wants to pursue.

The College's openness with regard to individualized experience is reflected in the Feb program and rising number of admitted first-years taking gap years.

"We have an entire Feb class, we have the term super senior, which students use affectionately and with pride," Collado said. "It's something you don't usually see at top liberal arts colleges. Usually there's a pathology associated with taking extra time, taking a semester off or starting college late. But for us,

it's something that we generally celebrate. I'm proud of the fact that we have the room, and even a language and a culture, around people coming in later."

A student's decision to take a leave of absence is collaborative and requires meetings with the student's Commons Dean and academic advisor, along with family members. However, there exist possible negative implications of taking a voluntary leave of absence, particularly regarding financial aid.

If a student who has been granted aid takes a voluntary leave of absence, he or she remains entitled to eight semesters of aid. Problems arise, however, if a student takes more than eight semesters to graduate or if the decision to withdraw is made after the official start of the semester. In such situations, students must petition the College for a ninth semester of financial aid approval, as outlined in the Student Handbook. Financial aid is very rarely granted to a student for more than nine semesters.

With regard to a student's ninth semester, however, Director of Financial Aid Operations Michael McLaughlin said that, upon being approved, the College will meet 100 percent of a student's demonstrated need.

Smith Abbott, who views the voluntary leave of absence spike in a mostly favorable light, noted that if this semester's spike continues and becomes a noticeable trend, the College will need to change planning for housing, enrollment and other facets of student and academic life.

"I think we can manage it and I think understanding it is important, but that's going to be a matter of looking at the numbers over a number of years," she said.

SGA UPDATE

On the Community Education Credit Discussions

By Rachel Liddell

First, before you read this column, go/foodsurvey! Quick! You can help us influence the budgeting and sourcing decisions of Dining Services. Plus, 12 lucky respondents will win prizes! You could win a date night to 51 Main, a day at the spa at Studio 7 or even Dolci tickets!

Now that you've finished the survey (right?), I want to update you on the Community Education Requirement. The Campus Editorial Board suggested such a requirement three weeks ago. Since then, I have met Associate Vice President for Operations Norm Cushman, Special Assistant to the Assistant Vice President of Operations Linda Ross, Director of Facilities Services Mike Moser and Manager of Employee Relations Laura Carotenuto to discuss the feasibility of a Community Education Requirement.

We face several challenges as we create this credit. For starters, when students spend time working without pay, their labor replaces the work of employees. Additionally, large-spread management of student work is incredibly difficult for facilities to execute, and, historically, has not been successful. Plus, students, in all likelihood, will not have the skills or the training needed to complete tasks efficiently, or even well. As such, the amount of and types of jobs available to us are extremely limited. Ideas such as leaf raking, weeding, or snow shoveling are all seasonal and weather-dependent and therefore imperfect.

Despite these challenges, the aforementioned people were supportive of the Community Education Requirement. They conveyed the complexities and pitfalls of such an offering, but they also appreciated the sentiment behind the recommendation. We brainstormed some more options, such as creating a system concentrated on dish return or litter collection, both of which are currently done by facilities workers in an informal fashion. Additionally, the Recycling Center, which already manages many student

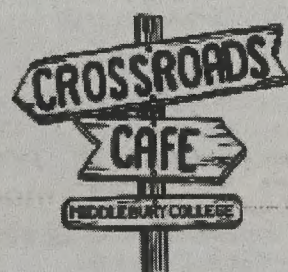
workers, may serve as an excellent option. They have the infrastructure to manage students and the volume of work might support the number of hours we want to require. Plus, the Recycling Center offers a particularly educational experience — sorting through waste would expose the irresponsible disposal habits of students, such as discarding dishes in trash cans, to their peers.

As we've considered this idea, several questions have arisen. Is eight hours enough? Is it a meaningful amount of time to contribute to the service of our community? What constitutes our community? Could service off-campus count towards this requirement? It could accomplish similar goals, namely enforcing the expectation that students give back to the community. In order to answer these questions, we all need to discuss what we aim to gain through this requirement. Empathy? Respect? Less vomit in Battell?

Finally, our two hard-working First Year Senators Karina Toy '17 and Wenhao Yu '17 have formed this year's First-Year Committee. The First-Year Committee started last year as a forum for first-year students to voice their opinions about their college experiences and to foster community building by organizing inter-commons events just for first-years. This year, with the help of last year's First-Year Committee, the Class of 2017 has already had the opportunity to attend a Mix-and-Mingle at 51 Main and an Atwater dinner. This year's committee is made up of eight members, in addition to Karina and Wenhao. Two Feb students from the Class of 2017.5 will join the committee during the spring semester.

Class of 2017, what would you like the first-year Committee to work on this year? A particular concern you want to share with the administration? A bonfire? A massive J-Term snowball fight?

Email us with ideas and suggestions at sga@middlebury.edu!



MCAB TRIVIA NIGHT THURSDAY 9-11PM

Halloween-themed trivia with Homecoming shirts and Grille certificates for prizes! FREE food and 1/2 priced smoothies!

QUIET LIFE AND HIP HATCHET

FRIDAY 9:30PM-12:30AM

Hip Hatchet presents rustic, carefully orchestrated folk songs and Quiet Life, presents a rambunctious roots sound. All ages welcome! Beer and wine available for 21+ w/2 forms of ID.

DEBATE: IS FACEBOOK GOOD FOR SOCIETY AND INDIVIDUALS?

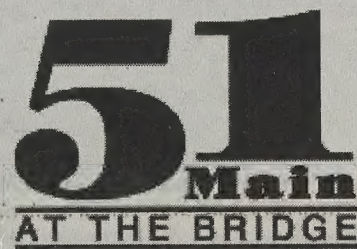
SATURDAY 4-6PM

Come watch some of Middlebury's best debaters grapple with important questions.

SUNDAY NIGHT FOOTBALL

SATURDAY 8-11PM

Colts v Texans on the big screen and FREE popcorn. Crossroads and the Grille open



STUCK IN THE MIDDLE THURSDAY 8-9:30PM

SIM is Middlebury College's freshest, cleanest all-male a cappella group performing for you live!

SOUND INVESTMENT JAZZ ENSEMBLE

FRIDAY 8-10PM

The Sound Investment Jazz Ensemble is the College's swingin' big band, featuring great musicians playing the music that's been called America's National Treasure. This evening is sure to keep fingers snapping and toes tapping; there might even be dancing in the aisles!

MINT JULEP

SATURDAY 8-11PM

Mint Julep gives jazz a fresh flavor performing all the sweet and scandalous standards from the Golden Age of Swing and Jazz with a modern flair.

Shoreham Welcomes Shacksbury Cider

By David Ullmann

Shacksbury Cider, the creation of Colin Davis '03, David Dolginow '09 and Michael Lee, is no Woodchuck Hard Cider, as they proudly proclaim. Rather, this new hard cider company in Shoreham, Vt. boasts something unique.

Their brewing process harks back to America's earliest settlers, when pioneers like Johnny Appleseed planted smaller cider apples instead of the standard larger ones sold in grocery stores today.

Back when the first Europeans were settling Vermont and the greater New England area, law required that homesteaders plant 50 apple trees each.

The apples they planted — cider apples — were more bitter than desert apples and the apples we consume today. However, once fermented, the apples produced a tasty cider that helped alleviate the trouble of uneasy access to portable water.

A few historical developments prevented the beverage from entering widespread commercial use the way beer and wine did. Urbanization encroached on once rural orchards, prohibition theoretically stopped all alcohol consumption and the popularization and accessibility of German beer.

A few heirloom trees survived the changes that took place in Vermont. And now, the three cider-connoisseurs of Shacksbury Cider are determined to harvest these tree's fruits once again.

"To revive [a] tradition, to find the perfect apples and to make the perfect cider."

MICHAEL LEE
CO-OWNER OF SHACKSBURY CIDER

The team searched through cow pastures, forests and down remote... country roads in search of

these rare trees. With the apple tree owners' permission, they collected apples in a primitive yet surprisingly effective and ultimately efficient way. They simply using a standard pole to shake the fruit off branches and into a tarp.

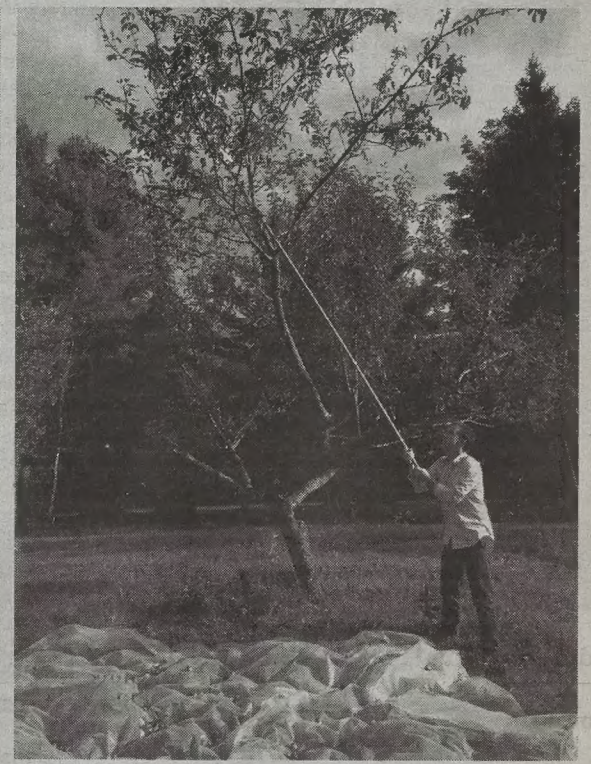
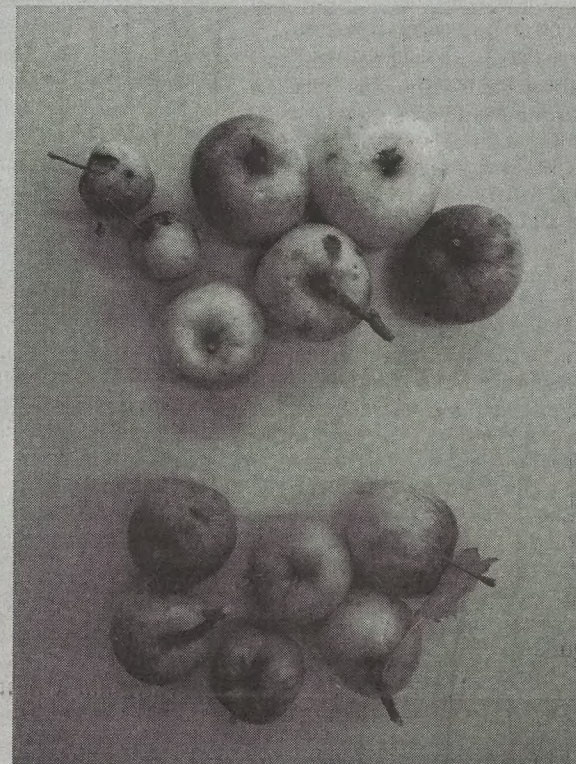
Their quest extends beyond just Shacksbury Cider, though, and on a larger scale, is called "The Lost Apples Project."

Kickstarter, the world's largest online crowdfunding platform, helped finance the trio's adventure.

After their fruitful search, they've successfully brewed cider and hope to put their first batches on the market this week.

They distinguish their product from other mass-produced hard ciders by their brewing method which they claim preserves the natural tastes of the apples.

"It is pretty much a very different product," said Dolginow. "That juice has already been



COURTESY OF WWW.SHACKSBURY.COM

Shacksbury Cider wants to recreate the original hard cider that European settlers drank in New England; the types of apples they use are an old, small variety. Picking methods are basic as well.

cooked up and stabilize. What you're doing is taking a lot of the amazing characteristics that make really good cider out of the juice."

Shacksbury Cider possesses a much more complex, more rich taste than the "sweet pixy stick flavor" of today's hard ciders, according to the Shacksbury Cider team.

They compare their product to wine because of the sophistication of the art form inherent in its crafting and creation.

One key question remains unanswered. If these cider apples were lost and cider-making changed so drastically from the time of the first settlers to our current drink, how did these men

learn a lost art? Europeans taught them. Producers in Spain, France and England educated them about traditional ciders and how to brew them.

Their process and learning lent itself to a simple philosophy that backs their entire endeavor and acts as a guiding principle for Shacksbury Cider.

"You can't fake the fruits," said Dolginow.

According to him, that marks another essential difference between their production and other's.

"To start with the fruit that [other commercial cider makers] are using isn't the right fruit," said Dolginow. "The end products you sit down with, you wouldn't consider the same product."

The team wants to make Vermont the Bororo of hard ciders. The northern Italian town produces excellent wine but is less glamorous than other wine-producing regions like the Napa valley, which renders the comparison appropriate, according to Lee.

However, a few impediments stand in the way of them reaching national markets and fulfilling their goal.

First, Shacksbury Cider lacks a consistent source of apples. Until now, they've relied solely on apples they've gathered from other people's property.

In attempts to combat this limitation, Shacksbury cider hopes to work with local growers to plant 500 cider apple trees. For the property owners, this might be a risk, as the trees take 5 years to fully mature and do not promise any successful results.

Shacksbury Cider also lacks their own press and must share one with other local apple growers. Since a tree costs only 20 dollars, the Lost Tree Project has asked for donations in a three minute film online.

To what end, Lee asks himself towards the video's end. "To revive [a] tradition, to find the perfect apples, and make the perfect cider."



COURTESY OF JEFF KUBINA VIA WWW.SHACKSBURY.COM

The makers of Shacksbury Cider are raising money to plant more cider apple trees in Vermont.



Halloween Ideas from "The Good Witch's Owner," Addy Dorman

By Mary Claire Ecclesine

If you've already purchased a pre-made and unoriginal costume for Halloween, it's never too early to start thinking about next year's costume. Why not try an alternative to the classic itchy polyester costume packaged in a seal-tight plastic bag?

In town, Mendy's, a high quality, fashion forward women's clothing store on Main Street, lies "The Good Witch."



COURTESY

Addy Dorman is going as a Pegicorn.

Named after Glenda the Good Witch from the Wizard of Oz, "The Good Witch" is a costume shop owned and operated by the manager of Mendy's herself, Addy Dorman.

Dorman crafts the costumes by hand, selects the accessories and works all year long to create the most creative and elaborate

rate costumes for this exciting time of year.

At age 10, Dorman's mother taught her how to sew because she foresaw her daughter being too small to fit into her clothes. After years of practice, she started working with recycled materials such as jersey knit t-shirts. By age 17, Dorman was selling her original skirts constructed out of old recycled t-shirts.

After graduating high school, Dorman attended the College for a brief time before she transferred to the Massachusetts College of Art. She graduated in 2009 with a BA in Fine Arts 3D, with a concentration in fibers. After graduation she came back to Middlebury and worked at Mendy's where she then began her first entrepreneurial endeavor.

Ever since she was a young girl, Dorman has always loved "dress up," but was particularly fond of Halloween. Some might even say that her passion for the fall holiday began at birth. She was born on Oct. 27, just four days before Halloween. According to Dorman, however, her fondness for this holiday stems from her life goal: being her own person. By designing and creating Halloween costumes, Dorman is able to live out a life in fashion with her own sense of direction and self-autonomy.

This year, for the first time, The Good Witch is carrying both men's and women's costumes. Dorman commented on a theme she noticed regarding the most popular getups. The top three costumes most admired by both men and women have been, a super hero, a Native American and a pirate.

Out of the three, Dorman's favorite is Wonder Women.

"Every girl wants to be Wonder Women," Dorman said. "And any guy would be superman, batman, the green lantern, the hulk, ironman, and captain America. Men like to dress up as superheroes and so do girls."

Dorman provided some advice for girls attempting to dress up as Wonder Woman. She suggests starting out with a onesie, then adding tights, a gold crown, cuffed wrists, a red corset, a gold bust and a star-spangled banner bottom.



COURTESY

The Good Witch is packed to the gill with costumes ideal for all occasions.

According to the costume expert herself, there is no need for a college student to spend more than \$40 to \$50 on a costume. Further, no one should ever be exceeding \$100. In Dorman's eyes, a great outfit only must include, "\$40 for the dress or body piece and \$15 to \$20 for accessories".

Wondering what the Queen of Halloween is dressing up as herself? Dorman will be going as a white pegacorn, which is a combination of Pegasus and a unicorn. Inspired by the original Disney fantasia, she will wear a white horse costume with wings and a horn.

Dorman offered some final words of advice when it comes to dressing up on Halloween.

"Have fun with the costume, don't be afraid to push the limits, go all out and dress as your alter ego," she said.

As for Halloween night, "Be a good sport, join the party and be part of the event," Dorman said. "Most importantly, however, admire other costumes and gather inspiration from the night."

LOCAL LOWDOWN

31

"Macbeth" Broadcast in Middlebury

If you're too old to trick or treat (i.e. older than 10), this screening could be a good, cultured alternative. Town Hall Theater will screen a broadcast of Manchester International Festival's production of "Macbeth," starring Kenneth Branagh. Tickets are \$17/\$10 students. Call (802) 382-9222 or visit www.townhalltheater.org.

Oct. 31, 7 - 9 PM

Day of the Dead Altar and Celebration in Middlebury

Come to the Vermont Folk Life Center to celebrate and learn about Day of the Dead, a Mexican holiday celebrating and remembering friends and relatives who've left us. There will be an authentic altar, traditional music and food.

Nov. 1, 6 - 9 PM

Holiday Bazaar in Middlebury

Need a study break on Saturday? The Middlebury Congregational Church will be hosting the annual bazaar, featuring wagon rides, wooden crafts, quilted items, backed goods, American Girl doll clothes and tons more random stuff. Santa will even stop by between 10 AM and noon! For more information email midducc@comcast.net.

Nov 2, 9 AM - 3 PM

Brooks Williams in Concert in Ripton

If, like some of us, you occasionally have a very strong desire to get out of Middlebury, head to the hills for a concert on Saturday. The Ripton Community Coffee House will host Americana guitar player Brooks Williams. Before the performance is a one-hour open mike. Tickets are \$10 for adults, seniors and teens \$8, children \$3. For more information call (802) 388-9782.

Nov. 2, 7:30 - 9:30 PM.

Turkey Supper in Orwell

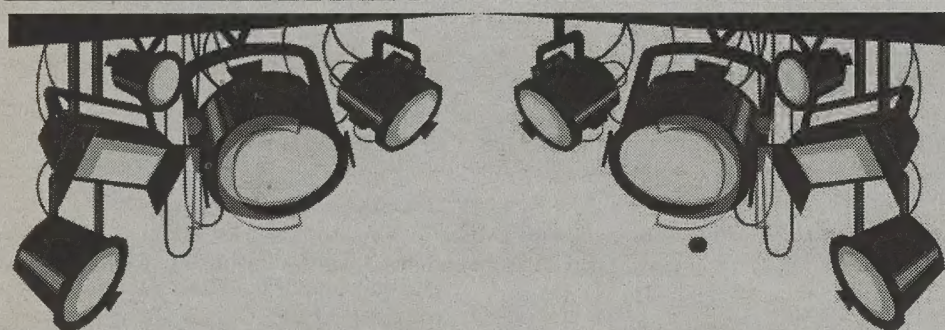
In case you want an early/pre-Thanksgiving, the Orwell Town Hall will host a turkey supper. There will be turkey, gravy and "all the fixings" (YUM), plus HOME-MADE pies and rolls. Proceeds benefit the First Congregational Church of Orwell. Adults \$10, children under 10 \$5. Takeout available at (802) 989-3322.

Nov. 2, 5 - 7 PM

Winter Sports Injury Prevention Workshop in Middlebury

It's almost that time of year! Snow is just around the corner and the build up to the winter games in Sochi 2014 is growing! Just as important as having fun in the snow is staying safe and not tearing your ACL when you're skiing some pow in the backcountry. Matt Horne of Wells Physical Therapy is going to talk about anatomy and explain how common winter sports injuries occur and will suggest exercises to reduce risk. The talk will be at Middlebury Fitness. Sign up at (802) 388-3744.

Nov. 6, 5:30 - 7:30 PM



The Theatre Program Invites All Students:
THEATRE AUDITIONS
for Spring 2014 productions

A CLOCKWORK ORANGE

by Anthony Burgess

Directed by Andrew W. Smith

IN THE NEXT ROOM or the vibrator play

by Sarah Ruhl

Directed by Cláudio Medeiros

Wednesday, November 6th

7:00pm - 10:00pm

Mahaney Center for the Arts Room 232

go/theatre for further info

OR email: burnham@middlebury.edu

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OPINIONS

The Middlebury Campus

Not A Chance

Earlier this semester, a Middlebury student found a note threatening violence and sexual assault against her on the basis of her sexual orientation taped to her door. Now, just weeks later, the College prepares to welcome Chance the Rapper, a musical artist who refers to himself as a "slap-happy faggot slapper" in one of his songs. As a community that strives to create a safe and inclusive

space for people of all sexual identities, it is unacceptable to give a stage and a microphone to a person who delivers this type of violent and intolerant message.

It is true that Chance's lyrics contain but a brief homophobic slur. This is not a theme present throughout all of his music, but the line in question is sufficiently problematic that it does not matter whether he has agreed to exclude that language from his performance this weekend. Enough attention has been brought to the performance that students will be well aware of what they did not hear.

To pass a microphone to a speaker who boasts – however casually – of violence against homosexuals while using a derogatory name sends a powerful message to our community. It says to those concerned about violence due to their sexual orientation that their fears are not important. It tells those who make homophobic comments and jokes that their views are acceptable. It shows the gay couple afraid to hold hands in public that they should not speak out about their experience; that they should just lighten up and hide their true selves. It takes a serious issue and trivializes it.

We would not tolerate a professor who advocates violence against women, a speaker who professes a fondness for hitting Jews or a comedian who

jokes about beating up people of color. A student who sent another student a note with the exact slap-happy line delivered by Chance would presumably face disciplinary action. The music that we bring to campus should not get a free pass from the standards to which we hold our community.

As journalists, as writers and as artists, we are painfully aware of the dangers that come with censoring expression. Advocating or glorifying violence against a group that already faces daily persecution – both on this campus and beyond – crosses the line between protected speech and hate speech. Taunts against such a group clearly violate the College Anti-Harassment policy. While we feel uncomfortable creating a blanket rule for excluding speakers and performances from coming to Middlebury, the selection of these acts demand extra research, and the groups responsible must keep in mind the safety and comfort of the entire community. The controversy over Chance's performance could easily have been avoided by a thorough review of his lyrics and a more diverse membership on the Middlebury College Activities Board Concert Committee.

There is also an important distinction between the freedom of expression that we guarantee as an institution of learning and the expression

that we choose to pay for as members of the Middlebury community. Middlebury is not a concert venue, where the cost of a concert is covered solely by those who choose to purchase a ticket and those uncomfortable with the content of the performance can stay home and save their money. When the Concert Committee elects to bring a performer to campus, the cost is heavily subsidized by the Activities Fee to which all students must contribute. It is insulting to all students who feel disrespected by Chance's taunts that their money be spent to put him on stage and heard over speakers.

We recognize that by imposing additional qualifications on the musical acts brought to campus, we make the Concert Committee's difficult job even harder. But it is all too easy to forget that people in this country and in this community still face assault and worse for their sexual orientation. In 2011 alone, United States law enforcement agencies reported over twelve hundred instances of harassment, assault, rape and murder based on this factor. Violent language is a concern that we must take seriously, and for this reason we believe that the MCAB Concert Committee should have more seriously considered the potential concerns of all community members before inviting Chance to perform at Middlebury.

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Stuck on Repeat

In light of the current debate surrounding Chance the Rapper's performance at the College the idea of artistic freedom in conjunction with hip-hop has arisen in a big way. By telling Chance he cannot perform a certain song or say a certain word on our campus, are we not then limiting the very artistic freedom by which we pride ourselves, or is the censorship of Chance necessary in order to create a safe environment for all?

NOTES FROM THE DESK

Stephanie Roush '14 is
from Seattle, WA

These "banned" songs and lyrics can instantly be streamed on Spotify or listened to on Youtube (you do not even have to log-in to prove you are 18). The material is already out there waiting for the world to listen to it, yet there is not a lot of dialogue in the general online discourse surrounding Chance that addresses his offensive lyrics. More than saying something about Chance, I think that this says something about hip-hop as a musical genre. For some reason hip-hop seems to be the baby brother in the music industry that gets away with everything.

Do not get me wrong; I love hip-hop. From the day I bought my first Eminem album to the time I saw Kanye perform for all of Seattle when I was 14, I have always loved hip-hop. Yet, a lot of the hip-hop I listen to does not necessarily spit rhymes full of respect for women or allow for success to be viewed outside of the realm of bitches and billfolds. Rap's social message continues to perpetuate the heteronormative culture, with little room for artists or songs that do not fit this ideological mold.

We applaud Jay Z for having a smoking-hot wife and being one-half of the wealthiest couple in music industry, and yet his lyrics still contain violent and derogatory language. If Arcade Fire writes a lyric that says, "Fool me twice that's my bad I can't even blame her for that/Enough to make me wan-

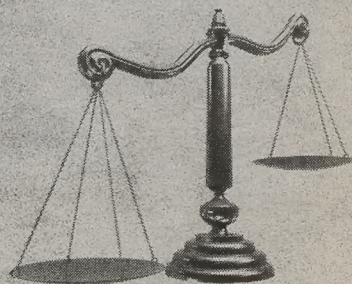
na murder," (Jay Z, "Holy Grail") the music blogs would explode with an in-depth analysis of what message they're trying to get across. However, when written by Jay Z, a lyric like this gets bumped at full volume in cars of twenty-somethings around the country without the blink of an eyelash.

As of late, the rap industry has become little by little more accepting. Frank Ocean became the first out-of-the-closet rapper to win a Grammy. A\$AP Rocky appeared on the cover of Complex magazine with his gay fashion-designer friend Jeremy Scott. Yet, some of the greatest rappers to come out of the last decade have not been scolded for their homophobic remarks. Rappers like 50 Cent, Ja Rule, T.I., and Tyler, the Creator have all either written homophobic lyrics or made homophobic comments, and in light of their fame (and swag), have gotten away with it.

"For some reason, hip-hop seems to be the youngest brother in the music industry that gets away with everything."

So, if Chance the Rapper grew up listening to these rappers that for years got away with snide anti-gay remarks or the occasional misogynistic lyric – and we will assume he did because he is only 20, then he grew up thinking that in rap music this is okay. Hip-hop is a posse culture. Rappers have their ever-changing cast of characters behind them that is their crew. Artists take turns doing verses on each other's tracks and the respect you need as a rapper to become successful is hard-fought.

So, here lies the problem. Rappers strive to get credit from other rappers to boost their career and often this credit is through offensive, yet catchy lyrics and a crazy flow. While few artists, like Macklemore, have made valiant efforts to subvert the social harm of their predecessors, the truth remains that our standards for social messages and violent language drop significantly when we talk about rap. Yes, rappers should have their artistic freedom, but we, as their listeners, should also hold them more accountable for their words.



HAVE AN OPINION? WEIGH IN TODAY

VOICE YOUR OPINION @ MIDDLEBURYCAMPUS.

THE LIMITS OF LIBERALISM

Books teach us that culture matters. This truth, as the late Democratic New York Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan observed, is fundamentally conservative. But liberals would also do well to take account of it. Any attempt to improve society through political means must recognize the limits and restraints cultural traditions and mores place on change.

CITIZEN KANYE

Harry Zieve-Cohen '15
is from Brooklyn, NY

Writers have been exploring the relationship between individual and collective claims of right and cultural mores since Homer. Nowhere is the tension more directly confronted, however, than in "The Misanthrope" by French playwright Moliere. In this influential seventeenth century play, the main character, Alceste, seeks to do away with the ridiculous social customs which defined French upper-class society. Alceste refuses to play the traditional social games in his attempts to woo the woman he desires. He gives none of the requisite superficial compliments that would ensure his love's requital because he views them as stupid and insincere. His holier-than-thou attitude earns him no friends.

Yet what frustrates the audience of "The Misanthrope" so much is that Alceste is perceptive. The moneyed classes of Renaissance France had absolutely ridiculous customs. Alceste anticipates the erosion of French high society that would come in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century. That it would take another 250 years for the culture to change is instructive, however, because what Alceste fails to recognize is that for all his awareness of the superficiality of courtship, he is as much subject to the same social conventions as everyone else. Everyone else in the play is, as Alceste comments, ignorant of the pettiness of the society they perpetuate. In Alceste's view, nothing they say is true or real. But the only person foolish enough to attempt to bypass society is Alceste. By the end of the play, Alceste has completely alienated himself from his society and has lost his lover to a less self-righteous man. Alceste thus ends up being more unaware of the demands and structure of culture than anyone else.

One can find a similar exploration of the individual's relation to society in Tolstoy's "Anna Karenina." In that novel, the heroine seeks to overcome the social constraints which bind her to a man she does not love and to a life she does not wish to lead. Although she views herself less as a

crusader for truth than Alceste does, Anna has a desire to escape or, indeed, overcome society. Her desire to change her circumstances pits her individual happiness and condition against the oppressive and tumultuous nineteenth-century Russian culture. As with Alceste, we sympathize with Anna. Unlike Alceste — and this is a tribute to Tolstoy's genius as a writer more than to anything else — we do so until the end. We fall in love with Anna and take her struggles on as our own. Her feminism becomes ours and her unhappiness makes our faces red. We are as conflicted about her lover, Vronsky, as she is. Yet, we also see the futility of her attempts. The recklessness of her decisions is laid bare for us. We know that she cannot live the life she desires, in part because she does not always know what she desires. As with Alceste, Anna seems driven by a dissatisfaction that is always shifting, never clearly defined.

It is in the complexity of Anna's and Alceste's situations and tragedies that we can learn something of our own predicaments. Moliere and Tolstoy give accounts that call into question the possibility and reality of progress. They challenge the ways we seek to change the world. But they also tell compelling stories about people who seek to make society better. Anna and Alceste are constrained by their cultures. Always seeking to escape or improve society, they fail to recognize the inevitability of their complicity in its foibles. In Alceste and Anna, we see the feminist who seeks to end the objectification of her friends and the environmentalist who asks us to stop driving so much. Books warn us not to be too arrogant or ignorant in our progressive campaigns. But they also affirm the enduring appeal of such campaigns.

Contrary to what many ideologically-driven readers assert, the political lessons found in literature cannot be easily categorized. Moliere neither supports Obamacare nor condemns it. What reading Tolstoy and Moliere does is reveal the limits of our liberalism and pave the way for it to become smarter. Reading does this because, in the words of literary critic Lionel Trilling, "Literature is the human activity that takes the fullest and most precise account of variousness, possibility, complexity, and difficulty."

We should read books not because they will tell us how to draft immigration legislation but because our political sensibilities could use an infusion of the qualities Trilling identifies. We should read books because they force us to consider the limits and abilities of human efforts to change the world.

Check It at the Door

What do we carry with us? What do we take into classrooms, dining halls and dorms? How are we perceived by others and to what extent do we validate that perception? I have no idea what any of these answers are.

If you look closely at the — ahem — "Middlebury experience," I am sure many of you can pick up on the constant question of identity that all Middlebury students face at some point. We are constantly trying to define ourselves via our major, our interests, our need to be involved in everything. After two years here, though, I wonder how much of that we create and how much people create for us.

I went out in a button-down shirt and tie last weekend. I asked a girl what she thought my social upbringing was like. She responded that it was likely that my grandparents had been wealthy. I repeated this at other times in jeans and flannel and people responded that they could not tell. This did not surprise me, even if the scientific accuracy of my tiny social study was iffy at best. I have to ask the question then, if people make judgments on what I dress alone can I ever check it at the door so to speak? Or is perception impossible to escape?

There are environments on this campus where we approach the issue of ill-conceived judgment. Certain classes I have taken where who you are as a person is entirely based on what you say. It is sterile in some sense, but takes perception out of the equation. You are judged on how academically proficient you are and nothing else. Not a bad way to be at an elite liberal arts college.

Any humanities student can attest to the opposite. Who you are, your stories and experiences are not only valid but emphasized, asked for and constantly sought after. There are merits to this, too. We learn from the diversity of our class (if it exists) and benefit from others' backgrounds and lives.

I worry, though: how do we balance the sterility of the first without making implicit bias if peoples' stories are shared? Or, more importantly, if their stories aren't shared? I worry that our ability to "check it at the door" is an illusion, that it can't be escaped and we are forever stuck making assumptions based on gender, skin color,

clothing choice or accent.

It is murky water. Identity should be something we can positively embrace but too often it is something negatively projected onto us. Nobody is immune from this. If you had just met me you could likely glean that I am white and male before I had anything to say, and, to the world, that might be enough. You might notice the cross around my neck and infer a Catholic upbringing and that would certainly give people some natural bias.

Now I am not looking for pity here, but, from those few details, which are essentially beyond my power to conceal, barriers are constructed. It makes it difficult to convey that I consider myself a feminist, for instance. We can assume what people are not just about as much as we can assume what they are.

So I do not think we can just check it at the door, as much as we would like to. We are not color blind, gender-blind or any other kind of blind even if it was convenient to say we are. All of us are guilty on some level of projecting identity onto others, whether they are strangers or our closest friends. How do we get past this? How do we affirm ourselves positively and allow others the freedom to do so?

A lot of it comes down to just being less judgmental. Smiling more? Saying hello more? The ability to make fun of ourselves, to laugh at our flaws and not be convinced that our community will immediately see that as weak or unintelligent is never taught in a classroom. So I am telling you now, relax, talk about it, and do not take yourself so seriously.

We cannot check ourselves at the door because nobody is comfortable enough to do it. We do not let each other do it. We point to who and what they are as justifications for their actions and words. We should really just let their actions and words speak for themselves. So I encourage you to bring it down a notch. Don't assume things of collared-shirted "bros", tight-jeaned "hipsters" or particularly opinionated "feminists." Let people have the ability to check it at the door if they want.

THE UNPOPULAR OPINION

Andrew DeFalco '15.5
is from Toronto, Canada

"We are not colorblind, gender-blind or any other kind of blind even if it was convenient to say we are. All of us are guilty on some level of projecting identity onto others, whether they are strangers or our closest friends."

THE SPY WHO BUGGED ME

I spy with my little eye, something that begins with the letter "S." That's right, scandal. As Edward Snowden nestles up in Moscow using his own father as a media battering ram, and Julian Assange is holed up in the Ecuadorian embassy launching vain campaigns to run as an Australian senator whilst fighting extradition to Sweden on charges of sexual assault (what a model defender of progressive transparency), a more traditional source of government scandal flexed its dusty muscles: the press.



It was France's "Le Monde" who revealed that the NSA has indeed been spying on French nationals without the consent of the French government. There were also accusations that they tapped the phones of

leading French diplomats which would go against every known notion of immunity and international respect. It was then followed by the "Spiegel" saying that Chancellor Angela Merkel's phone was bugged since 2002. There has of course been loads of recent out-

rage over the extent of the NSA's activities within the USA, but now that it has been snooping and stealing information across borders and, more excruciatingly, across the borders of its allies, the scandal has reached a whole new level.

In all honesty, however, it comes as no great surprise that millions of French, Mexican, Argentinian and German phone calls may be being recorded by the defender of the Land of the Free without any authorization. As the NSA says itself, they do nothing which others countries don't already do. There is a double-edged sword dangling in the midst of all this: either what the NSA says is true and they are just the worst at being intelligently secretive or they are lying and the NSA is miles deep in what the French call *merde*. Either way it paints a rather disappointing picture of one of the world's supposedly more effective intelligence services and of the U.S. defense project in general.

I think few people would have a problem with an effective government that compromises individual privacy in the interest of some ulterior good — say preventing the creation of a violent terrorist cell. But when that so-called effective government is better equipped to steal your keystrokes during your next browsing session than to provide you with comprehensive medical care were you to suffer an actual stroke, then I think you have a problem. And when you extrapolate the problem onto the international scene — that is the nature of this column after all — then you see a superpower better prepared to spy on the citizens of fellow democratic states than to defend the interests of those

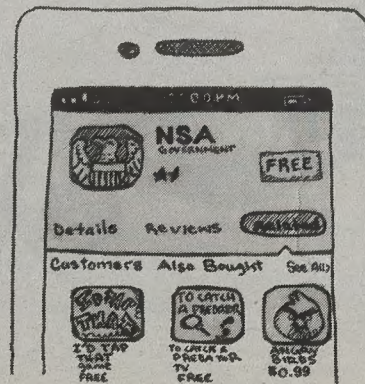
still oppressed by non-democratic ones.

If the allegations are true and the NSA has indeed been spying on both civilians, diplomatic officials, and politicians, then the U.S. will lose further credibility on the international stage. One cannot pretend to be a bastion of freedom whilst undertaking such practices, especially when they are done so stupidly.

If it really is in the U.S. national interest to risk a huge amount of its international prestige, then it should really be stealthier with its operations. There is no doubt that other powerful countries have similar operations; I just believe that the difference is that they don't get caught whilst at it. In short, I don't mind if the NSA knows everything that some random French guy, your sister or I do or talk about. I just wish they were better at keeping their own operations secure and secret.

EYES ON THE OUTSIDE

Jack George '15 is from London, UK.



SAMANTHA WOOD '15

Take a Chance, MCAB

A friend on the MCAB Concert Committee wrote to me after midbeat had posted my email, "I love to mess around as much as you do, but saying 'let's get these fascists' doesn't really allow for an honest discourse that could make the entire process better, rather than immediately trying to make people defensive."

First of all, no, my friend from MCAB, you do not love to mess around as much as I do. Secondly, making people defensive is in fact the only way this "New Deal" (the term future historians will use to refer to the movement of Chance to Nelson) got made. The Concert Committee — I won't generalize by calling them MCAB; I got no beef with the rest of that organization — only cared about this situation after the brave folks at midbeat put them on the defensive.

And they were right to be defensive — only advertising the ticket sale date on Facebook was irresponsible and selfish. 53 of my friends on Facebook "like" MCAB. About half of those friends have graduated from this institution. I would really hope those recent alums have better things to do with their time than tell me about seeing the one post the Committee made about the sale date of the Chance tickets. Other friends who "like" MCAB on Facebook include my ex-girlfriend and Public Safety Officer Christopher Thompson. I'm afraid I don't talk

to either of them as much as I should.

I was never going to find out about the Chance tickets from Facebook. I am not alone in that realization. The MCAB Concert Committee's idea of "honest discourse" was a curt, dismissive, condescending email to a single student who criticized them. They were defensive from jump street. The Committee got Lawrence Taylor-level defensive when midbeat proved that their inaction pissed off more than a single senior Feb who happens to be taking the Creative Process and has a lot of time on his hands.

The Committee had a problem: due to the show's placement in McCullough, there were not a ton of tickets. Their solution was to sweep it under the rug by only advertising on Facebook. That wasn't the action of people who cared about students seeing this show.

The Committee suggested I use "proactivity" next time around. That was right after admitting that they chose to only advertise on Facebook. I hope the anonymous meanie-face who

wrote the email — I learned recently it was not written or even approved by the entire Committee — is not an English major, because that is some ass-chapping irony.

Proactivity would have been to advertise the hell out of the sale date (posters, emails, announcements on WRMC), and then to help kids get tickets. To avoid the box-office website overloading, encourage students to line up outside McCullough the morning the tickets went on sale. Hand out hot cocoa. Make a whole thing out of it. The Concert Committee scored huge in getting Chance to come to Middlebury. Then they copped out. They didn't wait through the 30 seconds of silence in 'Pusha Man' to get to 'Paranoia;' they just skipped to the next track."

through the 30 seconds of silence in "Pusha Man" to get to "Paranoia;" they just skipped to the next track.

Why did they do this? I've noticed a tendency in my peers towards passive aggression. It's understandable — we all have to live together, so we avoid conflict at all costs. The Concert Committee exemplified this behavior at every turn. We can't have that in our leaders. Stepping on toes is an unintended

consequence of progress. You should be able to get over the pain of a stubbed toe quickly. When that happens, you can get to work resolving the conflict.

I'm not sure if the Concert Committee shrugged off their boo-boo to help overcome the ticket situation.

In my eyes, we got the concert moved to Nelson because of an incredible effort by JJ Boggs.

For those not familiar with Ms. Boggs, she is the Dean of Students for Student Activities & Orientation. To begin with, you've got to be a saint to work orientation every year. What's more stressful than trying to convince hundreds of terrified/horny 18-year olds that they will feel at home for the next four years of their lives? JJ is able to make us comfortable during orientation because she knows she will never stop working to make this place our home. That home happens to have semiannual rap concerts.

Hopefully this ordeal will open up a greater degree of transparency and communication between MCAB and the students it represents. Were that to happen, we could get to the bigger issue, which is, of course, people cheating at Grille Trivia Night. That needs to stop. You're seriously ruining it for everyone.

READER OPED

Adam Benay '13.5 is from Fairfax, VT

The Obamacare Catastrophe

On Oct. 1, the Obama Administration launched healthcare.gov, a government-run website aiming to provide Americans with easily adopted and inexpensive healthcare coverage under the Affordable Care Act (ACA). From its conception, 'Obamacare' prompted intense partisan

THE ELEPHANT IN THE ROOM

Ben Kinney '15 is from Camano Island, W.A..

divisions, impassioned political attacks, and ideological defenses. Republican and Libertarian policy makers viciously and almost unanimously criticized the ACA for expanding government control over one-sixth of the American economy, coercing American citizens to adopt health insurance and subsidizing health care with the simple and economically-ignorant excuse that 'healthcare is a human right.' And yet, despite all this criticism, few of Obamacare's critics predicted that its implementation would be so catastrophic. While the ACA's website has been up-and-running for a full month already and Health and Human Services administrators brag that nearly half-a-million applications have been started, healthcare providers estimate that fewer

than 100,000 Americans have effectively signed up for health-insurance through the problem-riddled program.

Last Saturday, President Obama bluntly affirmed that "the website that's supposed to make it easy to apply for and purchase the insurance is not working." But while the Presidential radio address admitted the program's failures, it blamed 'glitches' caused by heavy website traffic rather than the Affordable Care Act's inherent implementation flaws.

The extreme problems with healthcare.gov are systematic failures that will take months to repair rather than mere 'glitches' provoked by the site's fewer-than eight million weekly hits.

Firstly, the site's healthcare applications are far too complicated and time-consuming for the average, healthy American to sit through, with some site visitors admitting they spent over an hour trying to enroll in a program before ultimately giving up.

Secondly, according to one health care provider, "even when consumers have been able to sign up, [we] can't tell who... new customers are because of a separate set of computer defects." In 99 percent of applications, the Obamacare site has failed to provide potential insurers with enough verifiable information to facilitate enrollment. Even more disconcerting is the fact that the website, according to insurance expert Bob Lazlewski, enrolls, un-enrolls, and repeatedly re-enrolls the same individuals, thus confusing healthcare providers and prompting them to ignore completed applications.

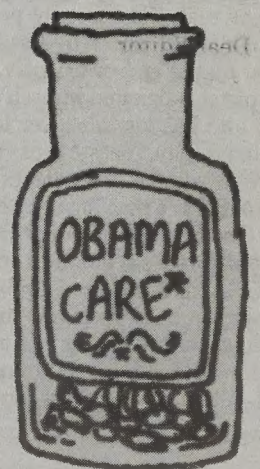
But I lost most confidence in the program watching

Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius' interview on Jon Stewart two weeks ago. When asked point-blank how many people had enrolled in health care plans through Obamacare, Sebelius replied, "I can't tell you because I don't know," a confession of startling ineptitude that begs the question: if the government can not identify who enrolls in health coverage through their website, how can it expect to manage the system?

Yet these structural failures, extreme as they are, draw attention away from the Affordable Care Act's greatest shortcoming: its unaffordability. As Obamacare forces insurance firms to offer low monthly premiums and cover people with preexisting conditions, insurers raise deductibles to stratospheric levels far outside the average American's price-range.

Additionally, by regulating competition, premiums under Obamacare's cheapest plans are estimated by the Manhattan Institute to be 99 percent more expensive for men and 62 percent more expensive for women than current premiums. As the Affordable Care Act overcharges the healthy to subsidize the health care of the chronically ill, elderly, and impoverished, these disparities are even wider for healthy, young, middle-class Americans. The result? The vast majority of the 50 million uninsured Americans will not sign up for Obamacare unless coerced.

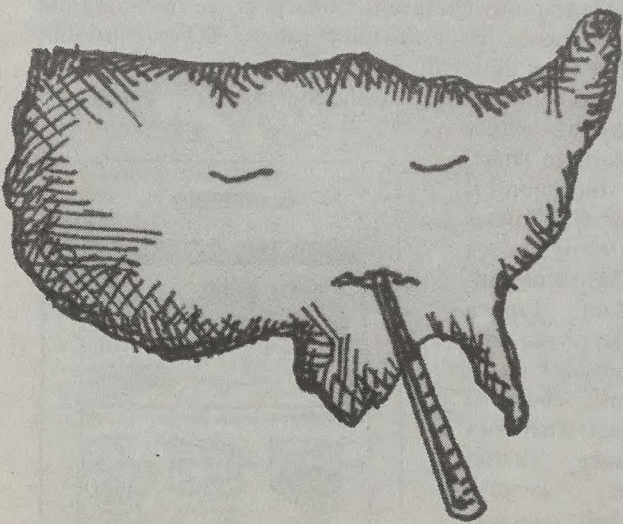
Of course, this is exactly what Obama plans to do this spring, when the 'individual mandate' will effectively fine citizens for not owning health insurance. But penalizing Americans until they adopt expensive insurance plans should not be our government's tactic; its primary goal should be to create more affordable and varied healthier plans for citizens to choose between. Regardless of the 'individual mandate' and the inherent political problems that arise through



MADDIE DAL '14

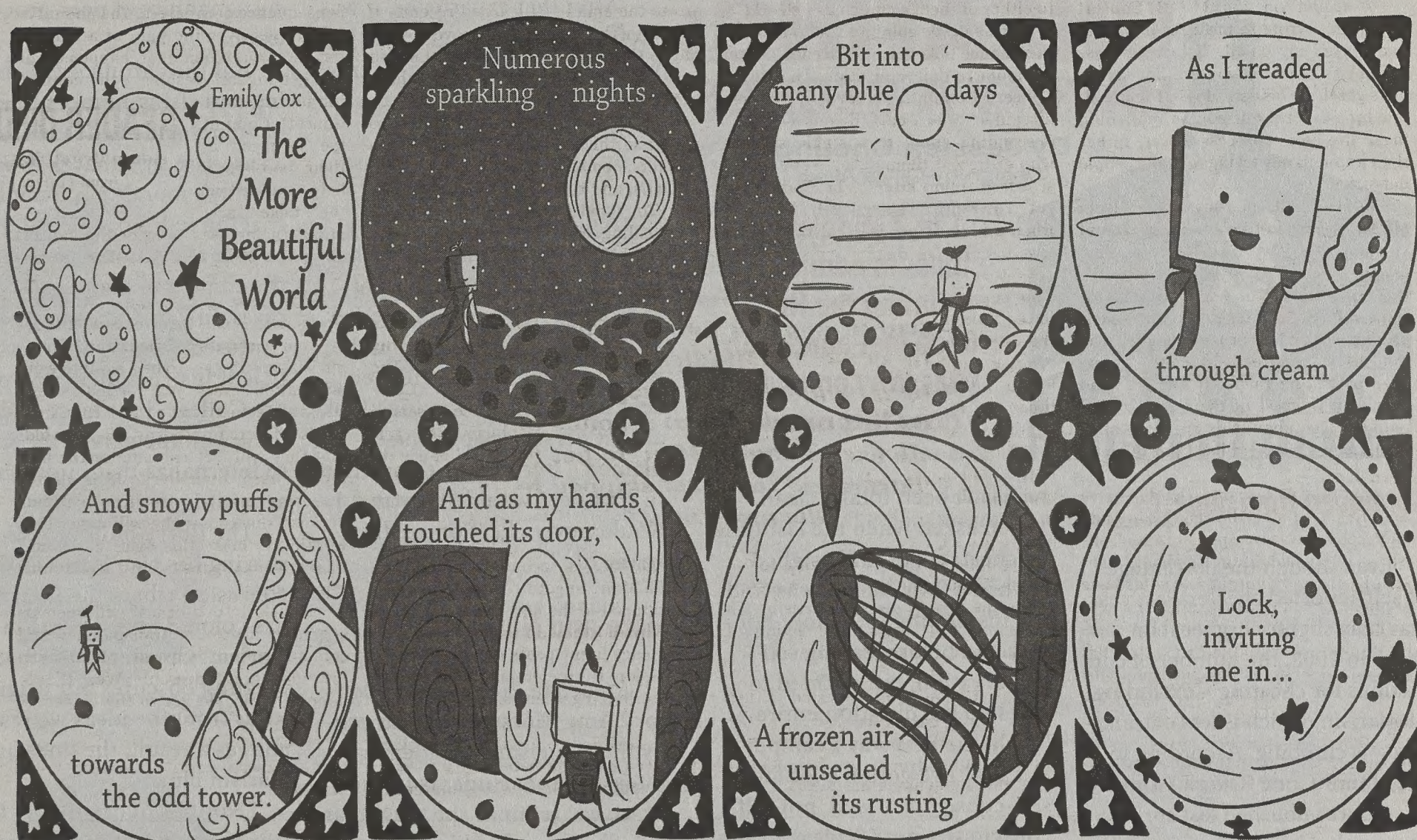
coercive governance, Obamacare looks destined to collapse. The system requires seven million participants, the majority of whom must be healthy, in order to function, and with fewer than 100,000 enrollments in the first month, this bare-minimum seems unattainable.

Nevertheless, conservative Americans and Obamacare opponents should not rest smugly with the knowledge that this program is collapsing. Instead, Americans should be wary that the Democratic Party will inevitably attempt to pump taxpayer money into the program, determined to fulfill their dreams of government-subsidized health care. Republican policy makers therefore must immediately begin to brainstorm cost-effective, free-market alternatives to the ACA and advocate for the program's replacement. The Obama Administration has already spent half-a-billion dollars creating an unusable website. This is just a website. If the federal government is incapable of effectively and frugally setting up a website viewed by eight million people weekly, how can we trust it to effectively manage the complex and varied health care needs of 400 million Americans?



MADDIE DAL '14

The More Beautiful World



EMILY COX '15

Don't End the Feb Program

Dear Editor,

I write in response to Zach Drennen's recent ill-informed and unfortunate column, "End the Feb Program," with the following points.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Greg Buckles is the Dean of Admissions

1) Mr. Drennen's assertion that the College "only reports the diversity statistics of fall admits" is simply untrue. All the information on class statistics we provide on our website, in our publications, and to prospective families during information sessions, fairs, and school visits includes the entire first year class for both September and February. The only exception is the federal report for IPEDS, the U.S. Department of Education's annual data collection program. That program mandates that we report statistics each fall for enrollment as of a specific October date. Our data on the entire student body always includes the previous year's February matriculates, but it may not include the upcoming Febs, according to those federal regulations.

2) Mr. Drennen is correct that the enrollment origins of the Feb program no longer make much sense, which is why that is no longer the reason we have it. Today's generation of college-bound students are much more interested in seeking non-linear routes through their education, hence the increasing interest in gap years, the Feb program, internships, and other experiential forms of learning. Middlebury has been a leader in encouraging those paths, and the Feb program is a reflection of that school of thought.

3) Any sense of inferiority one might have as a Feb would seem to be strict-

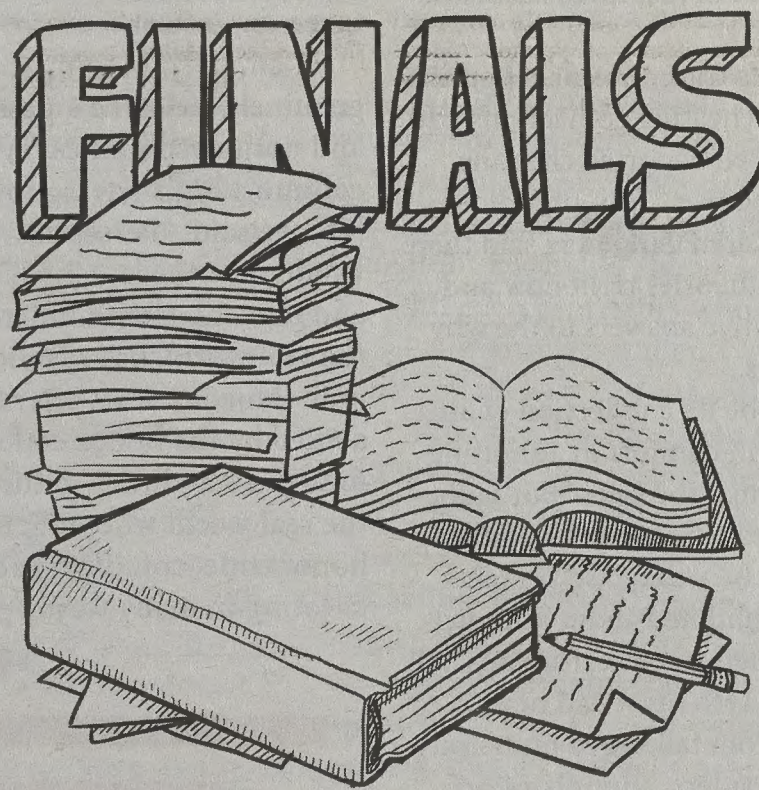
ly self-induced. The average academic ratings, test scores, and selectivity for Feb's is virtually identical to September's, and, in some categories, has actually been higher than that of fall first-years. Our current Strategic Plan calls for Feb admission to be voluntary, and now typically 95 percent of the annual class is so. We do not admit any candidates for Early Decision unless they indicate they are willing to be considered for a Feb start, and the same holds true for the vast majority of regular decision applicants, who would ordinarily have multiple options, in order to ensure no student would enroll as a Feb against his or her wishes.

"Like any top college or university, Middlebury is an appropriately self-critical institution; we have plenty of room for improvement and there are crucial areas in need of continued pointed assessment."

previous Campus article to bolster any claims he is making. I respect the work of Campus journalists and have a strong track record of transparency and cooperation with them. My direct contact information is readily available to any Middlebury student. We have, and will continue, to work very hard to shape the annual Feb class in a more diverse manner; no student would be directed away from Feb consideration based on race, culture or socioeconomic background.

Like any top college or university, Middlebury is an appropriately self-critical institution; we have plenty of room for improvement and there are crucial areas in need of continued pointed assessment. Tilting at February windmills is not one of them.

Respectfully,
Greg Buckles
Dean of Admissions



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CHEATING: HARDLY A SECRET

By Jessica Cheung

Design by Olivia Allen

1 in 3 Middlebury students admitted to violating the Honor Code last academic year. Why and what does this mean?

Continued from page 1

Even though the percentage of self-reported cheaters last year was only slightly higher than those in 2008, the number of convictions for cheating – excluding plagiarism, which is less cut-and-dry – is climbing. According to the Honor Code Review Committee report published last spring, the number of instances in which a student was found guilty of cheating increased four-folds over the course of just three academic years.

But it's tricky business figuring out why cheating convictions and cases of self-reported cheating are on the rise. Dean of Judicial Affairs Karen Guttentag said there are only theories right now and no definitive answers to the why questions.

"Maybe it's a reflection of an increase in comfort in admitting to cheating," she said. "But sadly, my sense is the taboo on cheating seems to be weaker, so students are less inhibited about acknowledging their unethical actions. All of which is to say – bad news."

But from talking to numerous student leaders, administrators, faculty members and national research experts, there is a clear shift in the academic culture that is threatening to hollow out the Honor Code.

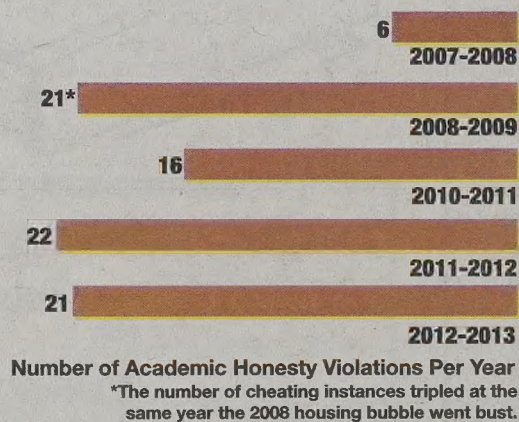
A Close Call

"It seemed easier to cheat, because cheating was more acceptable than a C-," said Billy. "I was scared, coming into freshmen year and worried about my GPA and potential for the future."

Since his close call in the first-year microeconomics course, Billy claimed he swore off the large-scale cheating. But

he hasn't been totally clean. When asked when the last time he cheated was, Billy sighed. He had a look like he was finding his footing into more honesty and before leaving self-preservation, but decided to sidestep the question entirely: "Well, the best way I can put it is that I've gotten a lot more self-conscious – well, not self-conscious – but I have a lot more integrity from the work," he said. "But I couldn't say that I haven't glanced over a person's test and taken an answer."

"I am in something that genuinely feels like a passion and not in economics trying to get into a high-paying finance job," he said. "Personally, I would take the lessons I learned and take them with me into the real world, but I could see how someone who, after having abided by the honor code for four years and then getting into the real world where there is no honor code, could get back into cheating in many ways."



When asked whether every cheater gets what is coming to them, he let out a smile. "I don't think so."

Billy's story is something of a failed morality tale, one driven by a desire to survive, scarred by the threat of losing everything, and changed – maybe only slightly – by the College's culture of academic integrity central to the Honor Code. But

whether he was changed by it, even he didn't seem to know.

"After that experience, it was more about the integrity of the work. It's a good feeling to know that I don't need anyone else's answer and I can accept it."

By the end of our conversation, it was clear that he was scarred, but not transformed.

"I couldn't promise you that if a person's answer was right in front of me, and all I needed was just one more question, I wouldn't say there's a 100 percent chance that I wouldn't look at that person's paper," he explained. "But I haven't done that in a while. I wouldn't say that I would never cheat on anything in my life."

Here and Now

Associate Professor of History Amy Morsman was struck by the cynicism in academic integrity from students in the first-year seminar she taught last fall. She passed out an article about the recent cheating scandal at Harvard University, thinking this was a chance to impart to her students what life means with an Honor Code.

"I expected them to be shocked and outraged by this breach in ethics," she said. "I was mystified by the sort of ho-hum response my first-year students gave."

Some of her first-years embraced an attitude of "well, in the world of today, to get ahead you might have to do this," Morsman recounted. "Some of my students already seemed so jaded by the world."

As it stands, the Code requires students to report witnessed cheating. But students who fail to, face a punishment that even the Chair of the Student Honor Code Committee (SHCC) Alison Maxwell '15 couldn't articulate.

"I don't know what the specific punishment is [for a witness who failed to report cheating], because it's not common for the judicial board," she said. "We can't actually know when someone has broken the honor code in that way."

All the assets that an Honor Code offers – an unique trust between student and professor, the freedom to take an exam without suspicion in the room – gets no play at Middlebury, if integrity is lost on students in

that same room. This failure has sent the SHCC to reevaluate the sustainability of peer-proctored exams.

But the chronicity of cheating and rising number in cases of apprehended cheaters is not a sure-fire sign that the community's morality is hemorrhaging red. Approximately one in four allegations, usually in the context of plagiarism, are cases, in which the students are confused, "the result of insufficient instruction on the part of the College, [but more likely] a failure on the part of the student to internalize that information," according to Guttentag.

The flurry of information sharing has also led to more confusion where the Internet has colored gray an area in plagiarism. Constant information juggling obscures our original ideas from the ideas we read and, as a result, the lines on plagiarism blur.

"Notions of originality have transformed today, because things are so easily copy-able," Media Studies Professor and Academic Judicial Board (AJB) member Jason Mittell said. "So much of what people are reading are re-blogs of other people's works or references to other people's creativity – with or without citation. We live in a culture of quoting and of remix and reference."

"I think traditional citation guidelines really hard to wrap your head around if you've been brought up in this generation of – I don't want to say loose standards, but different types of practices where citing is not relevant," he added. "Precise referencing or asking permission to quote someone just doesn't make intuitive sense to students today. And it doesn't make sense to me either sometimes."

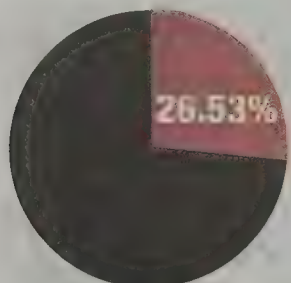
And SGA President Rachel Liddell hinges on Mittell's point about the clash of tradition and today. For her, the Honor Code has a different meaning when its tradition, over a breadth of time, is worked into today's context, a state of academic honesty she is "dissatisfied with at Middlebury."

"The Honor Code has a beautiful history, where students got together and worked really hard to write it and pass it," she said. "We don't own it anymore. And if we don't want to own it, then we have to figure out what

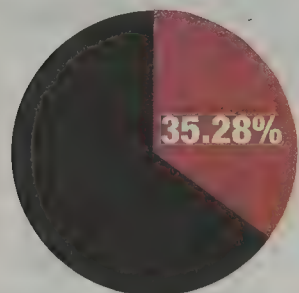
else we want to own."

Dean of the College Shirley Collado, suggest that the pressure to succeed doesn't happen in a vacuum.

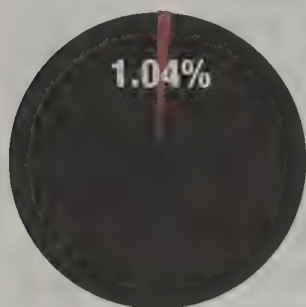
"We're seeing a trend not just in Middlebury but at a number of selective colleges – and



Number of students reporting that they have cheated at least once in the past year



Number of students reporting that they have committed an honor code violation in the past year



Percentage of total student body convicted by the Academic Judicial Board for academic honesty violations in the past year

I've talked to many colleagues around the country about this – that students are really feeling the pressure: what it's going to be like to be part of a global job market and exceling and being an excellent student at Middlebury," she said. "So I don't know how much of a role that plays in stress or academic dishonesty. It's a question I raise."

Beyond the Bubble

But cheating is not a Middlebury-centric issue. In fact, cheating happens less in schools with an Honor Code, according to the research.

The College's cheating statistic runs consistent with similar schools with honor codes like Duke University, which identified in 2006 that 29 percent of students admitted to unauthorized collaboration. But in larger schools without an honor code, like Harvard University, more than 40 percent of freshmen admitted to cheating on homework, according to a survey conducted by the The Harvard Crimson earlier this year.

"Schools with honor codes

are better off," said Donald McCabe, professor at the Rutgers Business School and leading researcher in cheating. "Overall, honor codes work reasonably well though not perfect. The smaller the community, like at Middlebury, the easier it is to do. It creates a sense of community in which students realize that when they cheat, they're cheating their fellow classmates. Large schools like Penn State and Rutgers are trying to increase the level of integrity among students and finding it very difficult."

But compare Middlebury to the University of California, Berkeley, with nearly 36,000 students, where there is more anonymity and less noticeable impact.

"Cheating is no big deal, because it happens all the time," Jasmin Soltani, a chemical-engineering student at UC Berkeley said. "It is ridiculously easy at a school this big with understaffed faculty in test-taking rooms."

When explained the intention behind the Honor Code – that there is supposed to be ethical temptation, Soltani was skeptical.

"The kind of unproctored exams at Middlebury would not work at all in Cal. 500 students taking the same exam in an unsupervised room? That sounds like a joke," she said. "The academic environment (at Cal) is very cut throat and people would not pass up a chance to get ahead of the curve."

Other students offer a more nuanced take on the cheating culture at UC Berkeley.

"Honestly, I saw very little cheating during my four years at Cal," said Emma Vadapalas, a history and economics major who graduated UC Berkeley this year in May. "Most of the instances I recall involve minor infractions, such as students copying problem sets from each other or getting a friend more versed in the material to do a problem set for them. I call these minor infractions because if caught cheating, the student would get a zero on the assignment but not flunk the class."

McCabe warns against this kind of lowered standards that qualify cheating. "The number of general cheating have gone down, but at the same time, there are a number of students who dismiss low levels of cheat-

ing and feel okay justifying it. I see it as a danger," a slippery slope toward rationalizing severe acts of cheating.

Unlike UC Berkeley, Middlebury's judicial process reviews cheating cases by the case.

Even if the College does have a lower prevalence of cheating than its larger counterparts, Liddell said that especially at a small community, there is a real cost to dishonesty – and we all pay it.

"The truth is, if I were to cheat, I hurt myself, but I also hurt professors and my fellow students," Liddell said. "If I were to cheat and I get a 98, and then the professor looks at you, who got an 82, and you look worse. Cheating of all forms damages all students."

The Future of the Honor Code

That does not mean improvements are not in order. But even with great strides taken to address problems of the Honor Code in last year's review – the HCRC redesigned go/citations and developed field-specific responses to ethical dilemmas – this semester, nine professors are currently piloting Turnitin.com, a plagiarism detection service. After this semester's trial run, there will be talk of Turnitin's expansion, the implications of which could severely shake the trust built into the Honor Code.

But students and professors staked out different views on the introduction of Turnitin.com.

"The point of using Turnitin.com is not to catch and haul students into the AJB room on charges of plagiarism, but to fix the problem before it becomes a habit," said Morsman, one of the nine professors experimenting with Turnitin.com.

"We do ask professors to check for plagiarism when they read our papers and Turnitin provides a more efficient method of the same process," Liddell said. "But though not a violation of student rights, Turnitin is not congruent with the idea of the Honor Code, because it does not rely on trust and it does not rely on mutual respect."

The introduction of Turnitin might be a prelude to the far greater changes the Honor Code could suffer if cheating contin-

ues.

Indeed, at a time when cheating reports are climbing, strides are being made to tackle the problem from all directions: top-down – through Turnitin – as well as ground-up. A main focus of the recently formed SHCC is to fix the system of peer proctoring, which Maxwell says is a broken part of the Honor Code.

"I feel like we are forcing students to break the honor code when we ask them to proctor each other," Maxwell said. "Everyone we've talked to said 'I will never tattle on a fellow student,' so it's very clear it doesn't work. We're coming up with a solution, but I don't know how it's going to turn out. Only time will tell."

But Associate Professor of Economics Jessica Holmes, who teaches Economics of Sin, too, concedes that peer-proctoring empirically does not work, but offers a quick solution.

"The fix is simple: proctoring. It is too small of a community and no one wants to be viewed as the 'rat.' Proctoring [would] reduce both cheating and the pressure on students to report on each other," she said. "How can I ensure the academic integrity of the exam environment if I am not in the room?"

But even professors who have not brought students up on charges are aware of the shifts.

"I've been teaching here for 12 years and I've never brought a student up on charges," Morsman said. "But I hear about cheating more from students and I hear it more from staff and the people bringing cases to the judicial board. I'm aware that it exists, that it's getting worse, and the College is responding to it."

Members of the community are slowly backing away from the original vision of the Honor Code. Doubtless, students and professors hope to see the Honor Code hold its own in an increasingly competitive society and succeed. But there are signs that things are about to be different. In the midst of the decisive failure of peer proctoring, the formation of the SHCC and the fortification of preventative measures like Turnitin, it is entirely possible that perhaps a decade from now will look entirely different – a proctor in every exam room and a website reading each paper.

On Getting Lost in Paris

By Vicky Marambio

I had a minor shock the other day when, through a seemingly innocent email from our academic director, I found out that we're already halfway through the semester. In disbelief, I did a little mental check-up, and yup – it's been almost two months since I first boarded the metro ligne deux with my bulky luggage, drawing exasperated looks from fellow passengers and clutching on to my host family's address for dear life.

Reaching the mid-point of the semester is always kind of mind-boggling, but being abroad gives it a twist. All of a sudden, you are in a position to "evaluate your study-abroad experience" and make informed remarks about Bordeaux wines and fashion. You realize you'll soon be answering questions like "So! How WAS Paris?" and as you shudder at the thought of that past-tense 'was', you wonder how you could ever stitch together, into coherent language, the mosaic of sights, tastes, frustrations and delights that make up these last couple months – half your time here. "But wait!" you say. "I'm only getting started!" How dare the calendar contradict that?

The thing is, I'm nowhere near halfway done with my mental abroad-to-do list, that vaguely formulated set of goals for my time here. The "list," so to speak, includes seeing as many museums as possible and attaining a respectable level in the art of wine-and-cheese tasting. It also includes getting comfortable with spoken French, which, to start on a positive note, is one area in which I've made decent progress. Although I'm still a little self-conscious about my slightly-Spanish, slightly-American accent, and I'm rarely able to phrase something exactly the way I'd want to, I'm not shy about talking and usually make myself understood. Plus, lately I've begun incorporating little phrases like "quoi" (ya know) and "bref" (anyways) in my speech, which adds a whole lot of coolness to my French, if you ask me. So there's that.

My museum-visiting record is another story, though. On our first group visit to the Louvre I wasn't even worried about getting distracted like I invariably do, because I figured I'd be back plenty of times. Well, not only haven't I returned, but I haven't set foot inside the Musée d'Orsay either, which is kind of unacceptable given that it's a twenty minute walk from my house. And it's free for students. In my defense, there is an unbelievable amount of stuff to do in Paris on any given day, and I keep telling myself that the museum will always be there. But I won't!

That's been my ongoing realization since Amy's e-mail, and it's prompted me to get my first street crêpe and finally go to the Centre Pompidou, another of the big museums. At least I haven't bought a mid-semester-crisis red beret yet.

I'm happy to say my palate training is going slightly better. My host mom was impressed the other day when she saw I'd tucked away a particularly strong cheese in the fridge. Go fearless me. I just hope she didn't realize I also have a weakness for Babybel, which I suspect is only a couple tiers above string-cheese in the cheese-quality scale... NOT a point in my favor. As for the wine, although I do very much appreciate it (and its price – it's a breather after everything else), I am still pretty clueless when it comes to buying it. I was actually close to getting a bottle of Barefoot the other day, just because it was familiar, but I ended up pulling myself together and getting an award-winning-French-something-or-other in the seven euro range instead. It was a close call. I'm telling myself I might not become an expert wine-taster anytime soon, and that I should maybe just aim for enjoying whatever's in my glass.yeah, not sure how poetic that sounds.

Bref, there's a reason I refrained from making an ACTUAL to-do list before coming here: I didn't know what to expect, and I was fine with that. In the same spirit, maybe I shouldn't make a detailed list of goals for the second half of this semester – not if it means I'll judge my experience according to those pre-set standards. There are certain things I should make a point out of doing (Musée d'Orsay...) but for the most part I think my greatest goal for the coming weeks will be to remain open – to allow each day to surprise me, adding however it might add to the complicated, amazing mosaic of this experience. Even if it that means the whole thing will be harder to describe after. Pass the Babybel!

Special Collections: Quietly Preserving the Past for the Sake of Midd's Future

By Joe Flaherty

Past a locked glass door and a chair that belonged to Robert Frost is Special Collections within the Davis Family Library, the space in the Library's basement that primarily comprises the books you will not find shelved in the stacks.

"It's both a collection of materials that are either very rare, unique, expensive or fragile, so there are a few different varieties," Director of Collections, Archives, and Digital Scholarship Rebekah Irwin said. "Generally, the oldest books in the collection are here, and some special collections are set aside." Within Special Collections are the collections of books such as the Abernathy Collection – a trove of manuscripts and rare books from great American authors of the 19th and 20th centuries.

Priceless books such as Henry David Thoreau's personal copy of "Walden" are kept in Special Collections.

"So that's a very valuable and, of course, irreplaceable item which is kept in a safe," said Assistant Curator of Special Collections and Archives Danielle Rougeau. Even if they are not books, items of significance to the literary world are also housed in the collections.

"Thoreau's father and Thoreau for part of his young adulthood were pencil-makers. So we have Thoreau pencils and a box that the pencils came in," Irwin said. "I don't know how many students know that the chair that sits in the front is Robert Frost's chair and his moth-eaten sweater that sits on top of it, and his radio from the Frost cabin in Ripton."

Other collections are more unconventional, such as the Helen Flanders archive, made up of recordings collected by the eponymous researcher and folklorist who traveled across Vermont during the mid-1900s to record folk songs.

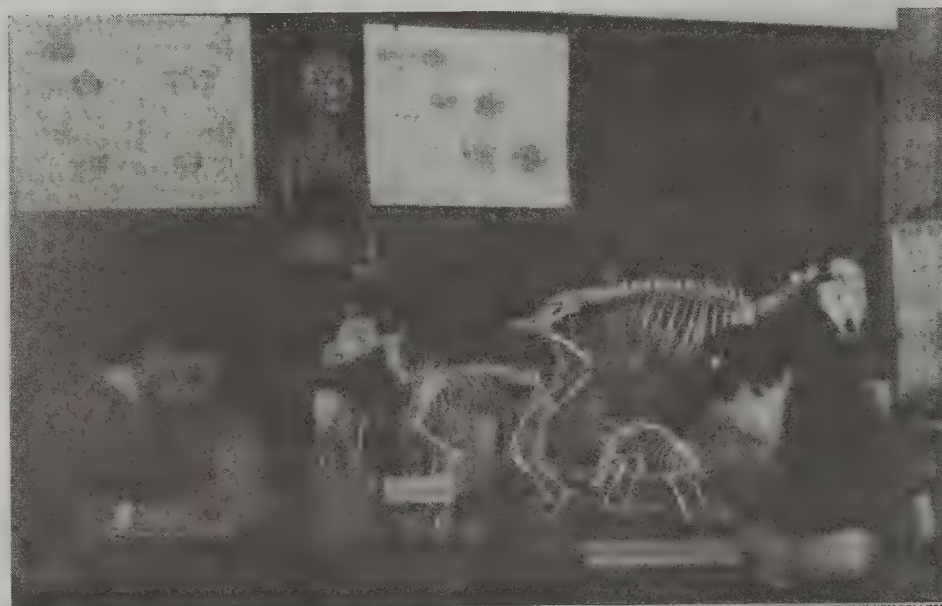
"We have 250 or so of her Edison wax cylinders that she used to record as well as thousands of records and early reel-to-reel tapes that she made," Irwin said. "It is a collection what is very popular among folklorists, musicians and researchers who are interested in how folk music traveled from Europe to America."

Rare Books and Manuscripts holds the books that, for the sake of preservation, have to be kept in certain conditions and not tossed in a backpack and walked around campus. These books are instead used in the Special Collections reading room.

"The Manuscripts part of [Rare Books and Manuscripts] is unique manuscripts, usually from authors," Watson said. These manuscripts include drafts of books before they are published, as well as letters and research papers.

Oftentimes, these manuscripts reveal information about an author.

"We have those collections, so if someone is interested in the process an



COLLEGE ARCHIVES, SPECIAL COLLECTIONS, MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE

From a 1930s-era photo album, students taking notes on skeletons for an anatomy class.

artist or writer goes through, we have those raw materials," Irwin said. "And that is something you can study to learn about the person or the process of writing." Rare books also includes a growing collection of Civil War letters.

A recent gift came from the spouse of an alumnus who was a niece of Ernest Hemingway and gave many of personal diaries and letters from the family.

"So if you're really into Hemingway, you'd be thrilled the collection here," Watson said. "It's the kind of thing that we would have researchers coming nationally or internationally to do research on."

The College Archives, a collection of any items and publications produced by people associated with the College, is an important part of Special Collections' mission.

"By the nature of being as old a school as we are, we have an amazing range of materials in the collection dating back to 1800 and before," Irwin said. "It reflects what is happening in society by the activities happening here and we have the benefit of over 200 years of collecting."

While the priceless items in the collection are of use to researchers, the Special Collections staff primarily serves students as well as administrators.

"When the College does new things, they also like to look backwards," Irwin said. Especially when considering changes to departments, such as the split of History of Art and Architecture and the Fine Arts department in 1997, according to Irwin, administrators like to examine the precedent that can be viewed in the

Archives.

"We're supplying them usually with research information that they need to produce flyers and brochures but they're also asking us for images often," Rougeau said.

According to her colleagues, Rougeau's ability to recognize and name the faces in the photographs of the Archives is unrivaled.

"She'll look at a photo of a dinner in 1905 or 1911 of the alumni group in New York City, and she names 10 people in the photograph," Watson said. Rougeau

speculates that working with the materials since 1994 is why her memory of the people in Middlebury's past is so keen.

"I feel like I have a responsibility to try to document this so that the names are there and it's available," Rougeau said.

At the end of the day, however,

Special Collections can only delay the inevitable.

"All things made of paper are made of organic materials, and all organic materials slowly degrade whether it's our bodies or a tree or a piece of paper and the point of preservation is to slow that down as much as you possibly can if you want to keep it in the future," Watson said. This reality has led to a digitization effort, with photographs, manuscripts, and materials from the Archives are being scanned in order to preserve them. Nevertheless, the ability to digitize has its downsides.

"We have photos and scrapbooks and letters and diaries of students of Middlebury College through the 1900s and into the 20th century but the last time one of you or your classmates wrote a letter to a friend, kept a journal on paper or took a photo and made a print of it, it's been a long time," Irwin said.

The Internet and digital media are hampering the Archives' ability to tell the story of events that happened on campus.

"A student can come to our archives and can study how women at Middlebury organized themselves around women's suffrage or abolition or any big political movement because we have documents that tell that story," Irwin said. "But if a student 10 years from now wants to understand what was happening around climate change on campus or divestment, so much of that was happening not on paper but on social media and digital cameras and cell phones and on blogs. We need to make sure that we can tell that story and that a student doing a history thesis a decade from now is able to see those materials."



COLLEGE ARCHIVES, SPECIAL COLLECTIONS, MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE

Members of the Alpha Chi Sorority study while a portrait of Gamaliel Painter looks on.

MAlt Services Community

By Renee Chang

Over Midterm recess, two groups of students embarked on short weekend trips to Port Henry, New York, and the Merck Forest & Farmland Center in Rupert, Vt. Both outings were part of the College's student-led initiative known as Middlebury Alternative Break Trips, which is endearingly referred to by many students as MAlt. This year's October Break mini-excursions marked the 6th consecutive year in which the trips have been offered to students during the fall term.

The primary objective of MAlt is to provide students with an opportunity to engage in community service in the local New England region. MAlt advisor and alumna Ashley Callins '06 believes that what distinguishes the trips from other fall break activities is how they serve as "ways for students to engage their peers in a community-based issue they are passionate about."

Casey Wanna '16 and Casey Watters '15 shared their passion for helping individuals suffering from developmental disabilities by planning a trip to the Mountain Lake Services facility in Port Henry, NY.

Founded in 1967, Mountain Lake Services is "one of only five programs in the nation that take recently institutionalized [men] with a mean IQ of 65 and provides them with the shelter and therapy they need to live again," Wanna said. Besides providing the men with basic necessities, the Mountain Lakes Services helps these men "discover new passions such as artwork and outdoor recreation" to provide individuals with "lives they had never experienced" before, according to Wanna.

On the trip, students were fully integrated in the everyday lives of the men, with activities including hiking, dining, visiting the facilities workshop and recreation center and playing video games.

"Although we came in believing that these individuals were remarkably different from us, I think we [were] all stunned by how similar they were to us," said Wanna. "They had boyfriends and girlfriends, wanted to talk about families and school, had hobbies and passions just as we did."

Adam Lang '14 led the trip to the Merck Forest & Farmland center in upstate Vermont. The Merck center strives to educate the public about sustainable forest and farmland management. Approximately a one-hour drive from campus, the trip was a perfect way to get to know other Middlebury College students in a close-knit setting while simultaneously engaging in innovative community service, said Sophie Vaughan '17, who participated in the trip.

At Merck, group members built a trail surrounding an education park in an effort to make the center more easily accessible to the public. The cabin at Merck is open during the winter for volunteers in exchange for free access to breathtaking cross-country ski trails. Chores such as taking care of bunnies, herding sheep and stacking wood were part of a typical day's routine at Merck.

"Although many of the tasks may seem mundane on first impression, participating in tough manual labor was rewarding because it is not something that can be expected in the traditional classroom setting," said Vaughan.

In addition to engaging in environmental sustainability, the Merck group had the rare opportunity of experiencing quintessential Vermont country life. Students stayed together in a rustic cabin, which was once a former sap house. Equipped with only a wood-burning stove and no electricity, the cabin was free from the distractions of modern technology.

At a modest cost of \$30 dollars for food and accommodation, MAlt is a college subsidized and sponsored activity that gives students the rare opportunity to form close bonds with one another as they learn about and serve the surrounding community.

But perhaps the most definitive quality of MAlt is how students return to campus reenergized and ready to share their experiences with their peers.

"What makes MAlt different from other organizations on campus is the emphasis on learning through service, reflecting on experiences, and considering how all of this can have an impact on Middlebury campus," said Wanna.

LECTURER EMPHASIZES ONLINE MEDIA

By David Yang

On Thursday Oct. 24, journalist Peter Savodnik '94 gave a lecture sponsored by the Department of English and American Literature, Ross Commons and the Rohatyn Center for Global Affairs titled "Why We Need a New Media Now and What It Will Look Like", the first lecture in the Meet the Press Lecture Series this year, in the conference room of Robert A. Jones '59 House.

The room was filled with attendees eager to hear Savodnik, who has contributed to The New York Times Magazine, Bloomberg Businessweek, The New Yorker, The Washington Post and GQ among other publications and has reported from Russia, China, the Middle East and across the United States, speak about the future of media. In addition to being a graduate of Middlebury College, Savodnik has also taught two Winter Term courses at Middlebury.

"We talked a lot about ideas," said Harry Zieve-Cohen '15, who was a student in the class as a first-year. "I sort of found since then that my own interests are in the confluence of literature and politics. It was a more rigorous and [academically] serious ... J-term course than most J-term classes. People should take his class this January."

In his lecture, Savodnik discussed how Stateless Media, the news company he founded that produces short videos called "short-reels" that deliver news stories in a more exciting and cinematic format, began. The first shortreal he made, "Brothers Shaikh," is about a British man named Nasser Shaikh who travels from Britain to Sri Lanka to find the hotel where his brother Khuram was murdered and where Khuram's girlfriend was raped.

Savodnik then spoke about why we need a new form of media. Though for many years he had vowed to remain a print journalist, in recent years Savodnik began realizing the deficiencies of current media. Print journalism is rapidly shrinking, making it no longer a medium that engages the public. "Journalists ... run the distinct risk of becoming more and more like academics, that is, instead of speak-

ing to the whole world, [they are] speaking more and more to each other," Savodnik said.

The lecture captivated the audience's attention and caused a spirited discussion in the Q&A session, in which many members of the audience, who have grown up with traditional media, questioned Savodnik's idea of new media. As the organizer of the Meet the Press Lecture Series, Scholar-in-Residence Sue Halpern from the English and American Literatures department observes, "[t]here were a fair number of skeptics in the audience and ... their pointed questions were useful in helping the rest of us understand Peter Savodnik's vision."

The topic of journalism relates further to America's troubled democratic regime. Many problems that plague the government today seem to be closely connected to the condition of the media.

"At this point in time it's questionable whether we have either a free press, given the corporate ownership of so many media outlets, or a functioning democracy, as evidence by the government shutdown among other gerrymandered disasters," Halpern wrote in an email. "What makes so-called new media important is the possibility of reinvigorating the press, in part by bypassing the constraints of traditional media."

"Without a healthy media, democracy cannot function," Zieve-Cohen said. "Indeed, I don't think it's a stretch to trace many of American democracy's current problems to our present lack of a mature and intelligent media."

Campus journalism seems to embody in some respects the idea of new media, as shown by many projects on campus.

"Because students are already familiar and comfortable and used to multimedia as consumers," wrote Halpern, "and because there are so many students here who have multimedia skills themselves, Middlebury students are already doing this kind of work themselves. MiddBeat is a good example. The audio-visual profiles done by the Narrative Journalism fellows is another, as is the 'Portraits (in) Justice' project, and there are many others."

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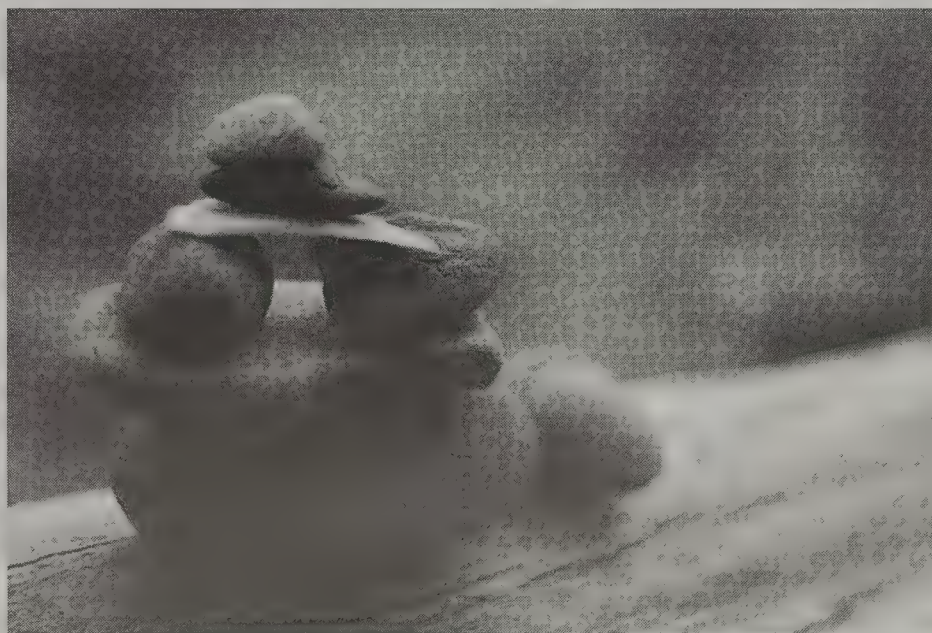


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ARTS & SCIENCES

The Middlebury Campus

Chance Will Not Perform 'Favorite Song'

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Brennan was not the only student impressed by Chance's distinctive sound. Adam Benay '13, 5 is a huge fan of Chance, listening to Acid Rap every day this past summer.

"I was getting so into him," Benay said. "I heard a rumor the first or second day of school that he would be coming, and I was thrilled. Kid Cudi came my first semester and this was a nice capstone."

When MCAB announced Chance the Rapper as the fall concert, needless to say, many people on campus were extremely excited. In an all-student email on Sep. 23, MCAB revealed the Nov. 2 concert date, announcing "Tickets on sale soon," and directing people to look to Twitter and Facebook for more information. MCAB decided to advertise the event solely through their Facebook page and on the Middlebury Box office website, leaving many students without tickets. Late in the day on Oct. 14, the campus buzzed with news that the tickets to the concert had sold out, leaving many scrambling and willing to pay well above the \$12 ticket charge to obtain a highly sought after ticket.

Fouhey explained that the organization decided how to advertise the event at MCAB executive board meetings, brainstorming for electronic advertising alternatives to the all-student email, which has in recent years experienced a push for limited use.

"MCAB made an online status which was shared by dozens of students on MCAB in the hopes that it would reach all corners of campus," Fouhey said. "We thought that with the excitement on campus and word of mouth, the ticket release information would spread throughout the student body. Our standard procedure is to release the tickets and then do an advertising push once they have been put on sale."

Benay, who had not 'liked' MCAB on Facebook, was one of the students shocked to discover that he had missed his opportunity to purchase a ticket.

"There was a huge portion of people who fell through the cracks," Benay said. "I found person after person who said 'What are you talking about? When did the tickets go on sale?'"

Due to uncertainties regarding the Memorial Field House construction, MCAB booked the concert in the McCullough Social Space, which only allowed for 600 tickets to be sold. In addition, the event was limited to students only and each ID holder could only purchase two tickets.

Many students may not be aware of the multi-step process involved in bringing an artist to Middlebury, including the important role of a middle agent to assist in communicating with MCAB which artists fit the desired genre, dates and price range. According to Associate Dean of Students JJ Boggs, bringing a desirable artist to rural Vermont for the right price is no easy task, and the MCAB committee decides which of the suggested acts fits the College.

"[MCAB has] a challenging job, and they have been criticized in the past for hosting unpopular shows," Boggs said. "They are simultaneously trying to meet student interest, manage their budget responsibly, offer a variety of programming, and at the same time, consider 'what might the social ramifications be for Middlebury College?'"

The problem with MCAB's marketing strategy, according to many students, is that not every student is on Facebook, and even those who are may not check their accounts on a regular basis. At the time of the sale, MCAB had a little over 1,100 followers in a student body of 2,500, many of which were alumni. The organization

had previously used posters and emails to advertise concerts and many criticized the decision to publicize through social media accounts that students had to join and actively use to be notified.

Fouhey acknowledged that the ticket release issue is a learning experience for MCAB and that the organization never meant to cause the dissatisfaction resulting from the social media marketing idea.

"We understand the frustrations of students about ticket sales," she said. "It was never our intention to limit or restrict who would know about the ticket release information. We fully acknowledge that we could have done a better job navigating this ticket release. We will certainly learn from this mistake, and in the future we will look to broader methods of communication."

Boggs reacted to an impassioned letter from Benay, first published on middbeat, and other general student concerns over the way the ticket sales were handled, quickly taking action. On Friday, Oct. 25, Boggs sent out an all-student email announcing that the College was able to secure Nelson Arena, and that more tickets would be made available for purchase soon due to the larger venue. The move to Nelson was motivated by safety concerns, as administrators realized that McCullough did not have the capacity for the crowd or the extensive set and entourage that travels with Chance.

"The real hero of this story is JJ Boggs," said Benay, pleased with this outcome. "People are reasonable here and it's very reassuring to know that things can get done."

Lyric Controversy

In the email, Boggs also referenced student concerns expressed over the perceived misogynistic and homophobic language in Chance the Rapper's lyrics. But for students like Luke Carroll Brown '14, Co-Chair of the Community Council, limiting the lyrics and song choice was not enough.

"I think we can all agree that violent homophobia and misogyny are clearly out of bounds and have no place on this campus," Brown said. "Multiple songs on Acid Rap depict actions that are in clear violation of our community standards, a reality that should prohibit Chance's presence on campus. This performance is especially upsetting in light of the recent hate-letter that managed to combine homophobia with the threat of rape against a student at this college; at a time in which our community should be finding ways of making maligned groups feel safer, we instead chose to hire an unabashedly homophobic singer to perform a concert."

"The Concert Committee co-chairs and I were completely unaware of the content in question when we booked Chance," Fouhey said. "The concerns over some of the lyrics were brought to our attention last Monday, Oct. 22. I do sincerely apologize. We never intended to hurt anyone."

Besides Brown, the controversy has sparked a debate from a variety of other opinions about discussing homophobia on campus and applying community standards to artists visiting the College.

SGA President Rachel Liddell '15 said that Chance's content is disrespectful and offensive to many students on campus, but worries that talk about completely canceling the concert would have crossed a line from concern to censorship.

"I find the content offensive, yet I respect the right of others to tell me things with which I don't agree," Liddell said. "I don't want people to be censored. I think that saying 'bringing Chance to campus condones homophobia' is an

overstatement."

Liddell further explained that if the concert had been canceled, Middlebury still would have been obligated to pay Chance for a show that never happened. She also believes that the debate resulting from the controversy is a positive outcome, asserting that, "the concert will spark the conversations people wanted to have."

Boggs added that a complicated conversation took place when considering what to do about the concert.

"Right now we don't have criteria for evaluating these kinds of decisions. Our struggle was to figure out how to be compassionate and effective allies amid all the complexity in a short period of time. We have a lot to learn from this situation, and we need to figure this out together," Boggs said.

Collado personally spoke with Chance's management, requesting that the artist leave homophobic lyrics out of his performance.

"[Chance] is aware of our concerns and our plans for an engaging and honest community forum," wrote Collado in an email. "[Chance's manager] said he understood and respected our request and that he was looking forward to being on campus and performing for us."

Cailey Cron '14 appreciated the censorship of the lyric, but feels that the controversy should be channeled to discuss a larger campus issue.

"If a lyric is missing, it's not going to matter unless we seize the opportunity to have a conversation about homophobia on this campus," Cron said. "Chance will come on Saturday and then on Sunday he will leave. This is not about Chance the Rapper. What we need to fight is blissful ignorance. Chances to address homophobia have come up twice in the past few weeks, and as a campus we need to talk. I'd like to see the administration take a strong, public stand against homophobia. I'm at a loss as to why that's controversial."

Benay disagrees with the idea of canceling the concert.

"Of all rappers, Chance's stuff is way more about drugs and how hopeful he is about his future, and he has lyrics about

anti-violence."

While Benay disagrees with Chance's use of the word 'faggot', he thinks that the compromise between Chance and Collado is reasonable.

"It sort of bums me out that he uses that word, but the idea that he would not come just because of that is sad especially because MCAB hit it out of the park in terms of choosing an act this time."

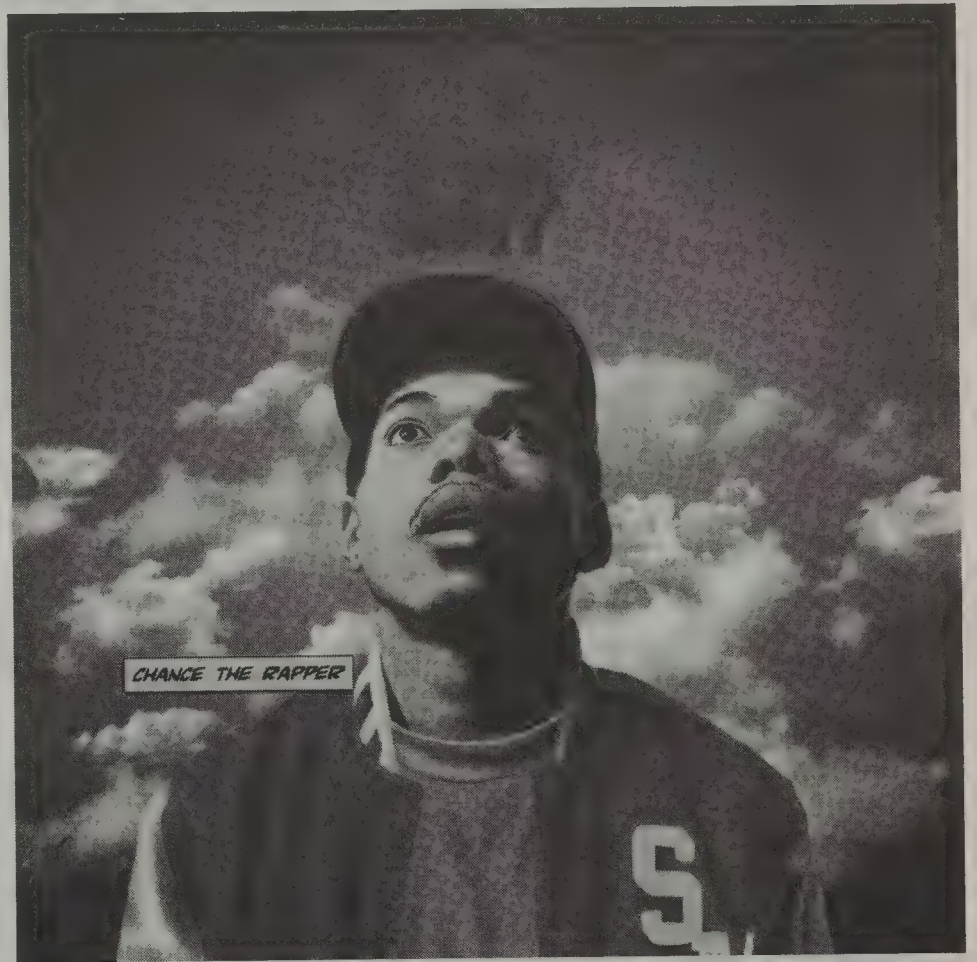
Big Forum. Big Possibilities.

To address this issue, Boggs announced that at 7 p.m. on Monday, Nov. 4 in Axinn 229, Student Activities and MCAB will be hosting an open forum to discuss how decisions are made about all kinds of possibly offensive art forms at the College. The forum aims to allow candid conversation about the application of community standards to artistic expression and how they should affect choices about who is invited to campus. MCAB also hopes that this conversation will help to better inform the student group's decision making in the future.

Cron does not think that the controversy should revolve around two groups of students pulled to join one extreme opinion or the other. "We've created a false choice between having performers violate community standards and censoring all dissenting opinion," Cron said. "I hope we can use the concept as an entry point to a far more important conversation that has to do with us as a community and the relationship between the student body and administration. It is a hard conversation to approach if the administration hasn't publicly stated its commitment to protecting and welcoming the queer community and concerns."

Boggs has high expectations regarding the potential impact of the forum.

"I hope that while we wrestle with these issues, we can commit to listening carefully, act in ways that foster inclusivity, and bridge the divide that's happening right now," she said. "Knowing that this is just an initial conversation, I'm hopeful we can both show support for students who feel marginalized and influence MCAB's work in positive ways."



The cover of '10 Day', the mixtape that shot Chance the Rapper to fame in late 2012.

DON'T MISS THIS

Vinegar Tom

Vinegar Tom is a play with songs and a play with subversive intent—a cabaret about hanging witches. Written by Caryl Churchill; directed by Cheryl Faraone. For mature audiences.

10/31-11/2, 8 P.M., MCA SEELER STUDIO THEATRE

The Sound Investment Jazz Ensemble

The College's swingin' big band features great musicians playing the music that's been called America's National Treasure. In previous appearances at 51 Main, the band played to full houses that didn't want the music to end. This evening is sure to keep fingers snapping and toes tapping!

11/1, 8 P.M., 51 MAIN

Alpenglow and Lucius

Alpenglow, an indie-folk band that began at the College, is opening for Lucius, a Brooklyn-based quintet, at Higher Ground in Burlington this weekend. The band is using the show as their Vermont release for their debut EP, *Solitude*.

11/3, 8 P.M., HIGHER GROUND, BURLINGTON, VT

'Cocoon' Amazes, MothUP Plans Expansion

By Ben Anderson

Two leather chairs and an array of lamps sat atop a faded, ornate rug on stage at the Kevin P. Mahaney '84 Center for the Arts (MCA) Concert Hall. Concert Hall Technical Director Mark Christensen played his guitar quietly, contributing ethereal and jazzy music to start off the event. This set-up, a warm display reminiscent of a cozy, family living room, was a warm welcome for an audience that packed the seats of the Concert Hall for Cocoon, a night of story-telling hosted by the creators of MothUP and sponsored by the MCA and the Committee for the Arts.

Cocoon brought six storytellers on stage, three students, two community members and a professor, to tell stories all centered around the loose topic of metamorphosis, stories of growth and change that ranged from a humorous story about first jobs to a heartwarming story of love and loss.

"Change is one of the only true constants in life," said Luke Greenway '14-5, one of the three students in charge of the event and MC for the evening, during his introduction.

The first storyteller was Doug Anderson, the director of Middlebury's Town Hall Theater. "I think we're wrong about miracles," he said as he walked up to the microphone.

Anderson's story talked about his time teaching at Amherst College. With an extensive history in theater, he was brought on to teach in both the theatre and English literature departments. With a hint of bitterness in his voice, Anderson pointed out to the audience that he had never taken an English class in his life, a fact that Amherst College somehow overlooked.

The story proved to be a strong start for the evening. Anderson's experience in theater definitely showed through and his style of storytelling quickly caught the attention of the audience.

However, though there were probably just as many non-students as students in the audience, it seemed a bit odd to lead with this story. Anderson's story was far beyond my experience as a student and, after the show, I heard complaints about his comment that teaching at community college was the "worst thing that could happen to someone in academia."

The second storyteller was Mariam Khan '16. Khan spoke about her experiences during her year abroad, during which she spent time working at a hospital in Indian slums and DJ-ing at a night club in Thailand. Khan's story spanned four countries and raised interesting questions about identity, specifically about Muslim identity in America. Her experiences were incredibly fascinating and the wide range of her story was captivating, though her delivery was quite fast, making her hard to understand at parts. Also, because there was so much going on, sometimes the separate parts felt disjointed.

"Though it may not look like it," Khan started her story, wearing a headscarf and traditional Pakistani clothing, "I'm as American as they come."

It was at this point in the show, after the first two stories, when I found myself starting to wish that the organizers had better utilized — or used at all — the set-up on stage. The chairs and lamps created an interesting scene and I feel that the relaxed atmosphere of the event could have taken something from having two other speakers sit in the chairs while the stories were being

told.

For me, the strongest speaker of the night was the third speaker, Emily Jacke '12.5, who was the last speaker before the intermission. Jacke told a story about her relationship with her close high school friend Jesse, who struggled — and eventually lost the battle with — leukemia. The story was, naturally, incredibly emotional and Jacke had an incredibly powerful and distinctive method of conveying her story. Her sentences had an almost sing-song tone to them, coming to quiet stops at just the right moments.

And while the story was incredibly emotional, it was also funny. Jacke seemed to know exactly when to add a joke or light detail. When she said, "Then, Jesse stopped coming to school," my heart dropped and then — seemingly moments later — I was laughing at the image of Jacke unable to cross the bridge at prom in her 108-inch circumference skirt.

During the intermission, the hosts of the event asked audience members to fill out slips of paper answering the question "What are you becoming?" Between each of the acts after the intermission, Greenway read some of the responses, which ranged from "A freshman of life — I'm graduating," to "A big gay rainbow butterfly" to "I'm only 65. It's too early to tell."

Throughout the show, Greenway contributed an array of one-liners and jokes and, in the second half of the show after Emily Goins '17 story about finding secret places around campus — a story, she said, that was "not a love story, but [was] a story about love" — he shared his own story about storing his possessions in an air duct over the summer. While his jokes were certainly cheesy, his persona worked well on stage

cilitating the transitions between stories.

The highlight of the second half of the show was a story by Associate Professor of English & American Literatures Daniel Brayton. Brayton told the audience about his experience as a graduate student flying back home from visiting his sister outside Paris. High above the Atlantic Ocean, a Moroccan man sitting next to Brayton on the plane was attacked — first verbally, then physically — by two drunk Frenchmen. Brayton, who had some experience wrestling and boxing, got involved with the dispute happening at the back of the plane, helping his new friend.

Brayton's story felt almost like a change in genre, from the more heart-warming stories before to one with a bit more tension. And while two French drunks and a Moroccan man getting into a fight over the Atlantic sounds a bit outlandish, his story was incredibly real, vividly told and very human.

Near the end of the show, Greenway announced that, in January, MothUP will be expanding.

The hosts of that event received an offer to become part of the official Moth with NPR. NPR and students at the College will be working to start the Vermont Story Slam which will feature stories both here in Middlebury and in Burlington.

All in all, the event was a huge success. A wonderfully curated group of stories provided for a night of strong emotions. Each storyteller brought an interesting perspective and a wide range of experiences that captivated the audience.

"We were very proud of all the storytellers," Greenway wrote, in an email. "It's a tribute to the strength of our storytellers that in our conversations with audience members, every single storyteller has been cited as a personal favorite."



COURTESY OF TODD BALFOUR

Art Director Liza Sacheli, Luke Greenway '14-5, Mariam Khan '16 and Emily Goins '17 sit in the audience as Emily Jacke '12.5 tells her story about love and loss (right.)

'Cascando' Falls into Abernathy Room

By Angeline Rodriguez

"It is the month of May for me," he begins, oblivious or irreverent of the incongruous autumn leaves and woolen sweaters. Though the dark wood and dry books of the cloistered room seem to forbid speaking, the narrator persists, joined by a second, more feverish storyteller, then a third in the plaintive tones of a cello. Thus in a room more accustomed to the close of dissertations and research projects, a far more dramatic work attempts to find its ending.

So begins Beckett's little-known radio play "Cascando," a brief but potent journey through Beckett's hallmark themes of existentialism and the end of language. Originally billed as "a radiophonic invention for music and voice" in its 1963 debut, the roughly 16-minute work was tangibly realized this past Sunday by a prominent cast including PBS Newshour anchor Jeff Brown as 'the Opener' and Assistant Professor of Theater Alex Draper as 'the Voice,' the two spoken roles of the play. The work explores the efforts of the Opener, our chief narrator, to tell the story of a man called Woburn (who, in true Beckett style, never actually appears.) The narrative is told both verbally by the Voice and musically by world-class cellist Maya Beiser, performing a piece specifically composed for the production by Pulitzer prize-winning composer David Lang.

"What you're hearing is the important thing," prefaced director Dare Clubb, co-head of the Iowa Playwrights Workshop, though the four-person tableau behind him could not help but draw visual attention as well. Brown, seated at the sort of long table suited to an evening news anchor, was flanked by Draper on one side and Beiser and Lang on the other, a commanding dichotomy for the relatively intimate space of the room.

The project, initially conceived and staged by Clubb and Suzanne Bocanegra for the dance theatre in the Kevin P. Mahaney Center for the Arts, was moved to Axinn when a plumbing issue rendered most of the buildings on Route 30 unusable for a public performance.

"We had done it in the [Abernathy] room the night before in the invitation-only performance, though, so it wasn't a hard transition," Draper said.

Though one might imagine how the acoustics of the spacious dance theater might have enhanced such a music-dependent production, "Cascando" didn't appear to suffer for being confined to a smaller space. On the contrary, the proximity afforded a close view of the dynamics between the players that might have otherwise been lost — the meaningful looks, the forceful gestures, the tense hovering of a bow above the strings. Draper's frenetic delivery in particular benefited from

the staging, an expressive performance that preempted the chiefly auditory nature of the radio play.

Draper, who has collaborated previously with Clubb, cited "the sheer amount of energy and drive that the Voice needs — to make sure you're doing that without over-running the text" as the chief challenge of the role. "You have to resist the urge to make too much sense out of it for the audience, to over-interpret. You have to let them work it out for themselves."

After the (first) iteration of the work reached its poignant close, the floor was opened to just that in a general discussion between the audience, performers, and director. "Thoughts? Questions? There's no detail too insignificant," Clubb invited, listening intently as audience members offered their observations on everything from the "gnarly-ness of the script" to whether the relationship between voice and cello was more of a competition or collaboration.

"The way it feels to me, at least, is that there are two sides of the story which need to be told: there's what happens to this person and what this person feels, and we need both the words and music to tell that story," Lang said. "I feel that in the end, when they overlap, Beckett is finally allowing them to help each other."

After the open forum and a brief recess a second restaging of the play was performed,

in which Beiser and Lang took the central space at the front of the room while Draper and Brown took to the mezzanines of the room in deliberately hard-to-spot positions. The result was such that, while in the first version almost all eyes were rapt on the performers, in the second more audience members were inclined to let their gaze wander or even close their eyes.

"The second time around there are way more people who are just listening," Draper said. "They've thought about it and they've heard other people's thoughts about it, and they don't need to pay as much attention visually."

Perhaps it was this shift from looking to listening or Lang's comments on the cooperative nature of the different elements of the piece, but the second iteration certainly felt much more balanced between the players. Beiser's haunting realization of Lang's score was allowed to take a more central role, and while both versions delivered on Beckett's work, the reprisal seemed closer to his original intentions for the audio play.

Ultimately "Cascando" offered a rare chance for the best of both theater and music to be united by one piece.

"It's one of his most puzzling plays, but with the talent we were able to pull in, it made the most sense to do Beckett with music," Draper said. "They're all astonishing people to be working with."

SCIENTIFIC LITERACY IN AMERICA

By Will Henriques

How scientifically literate are you? That could depend on your politics, according to a recent analysis conducted by the Yale Law School and Psychology Professor Dan M. Kahan '86.

John Bohannon published an article in *Science Insider* last Wednesday, Oct. 23 about a controversy ignited by a recent blog post Kahan wrote for the Cultural Cognition Project at Yale Law School. According to Bohannon, Kahan conducted "an informal analysis of survey data that compares people's comprehension of scientific concepts and their political outlook," and found that "those who identified themselves as 'liberal' tended to have greater scientific comprehension than those who self-identified as 'conservative,'" but "the effect was small — a correlation coefficient of $r = 0.05$ — and only weakly significant, with a probability of $p = 0.03$."

However, Bohannon noted that, "many studies of people's ideological leanings and ability to parse scientific information have found similar correlations ... [leading] to the widespread perception that politically conservative beliefs go hand in hand with poor scientific understanding."

Kahan was more reserved in his blog post entitled "Some data on education, religiosity, ideology, and science comprehension," and less eager to draw conclusions from his analysis. He mused, "there is a small correlation ($r = -0.05$, $p = 0.03$) between the science comprehension measure and a left-right political outlook measure ... which aggregates liberal-conservative ideology and party self-identification. The sign of the correlation indicates that science comprehension decreases as political outlooks move in the rightward direction — i.e., the more "liberal" and "Democrat," the more science comprehending."

However, he notes that in another analysis, he found that there was a positive correlation between scientific comprehension and Tea Party members.

It's not surprising that Kahan's findings sparked a firestorm in the blogosphere in which his words were twisted and misinterpreted. Liberals and Tea Partiers alike crowded over their superior scientific understanding (Glen Beck's website was part of the ensuing "dialogue"), while Kahan sat back and shook his head in disbelief.

Eventually, he felt obliged to respond to the fervent commentary his initial post

had inspired in a blog post entitled "Congratulations, tea party members: You are just as vulnerable to politically biased misinterpretation of science as everyone else! Is fixing this threat to our Republic part of your program?"

He noted that it is ironic and depressing that both liberals and Tea Partiers would triumphantly claim superior scientific comprehension based on the results of his analyses, which indicate such weak correlations as to be practically un-noteworthy in the scientific community.

"This association was far too trivial to be afforded any practical significance whatsoever ..." he wrote, "Anyone who might be tempted to beat his or her chest in a triumphal tribal howl over the practically meaningless correlation between right-left political outlooks & science comprehension could thus expect to find him- or herself fatally impaled the very next instant on the sharp spear tip of simple, unassailable logic."

The controversy highlights an unfortunate truth: in the United States (though really, the world round) the public neither thinks nor functions in a manner befitting a scientifically literate society. Shocking, given the information and technological

revolutions of the past century.

But why does it matter that we strive for this scientific literacy? Kahan eloquently outlined the answer.

"The best available evidence doesn't tell anyone what policy is best," said Kahan. "That depends on judgments of value, which will vary — inevitably and approximately — among free and reasoning people ... We will [still] have plenty to disagree about in the democratic process even when we agree about the facts. But without a reliable apprehension of the best available evidence, neither I nor they nor anyone else will be able to confidently identify which policies can be expected to advance our respective values."

In other words, scientific literacy is fundamental in the pursuit of a stronger, healthier democracy because political dialogue based on a strong understanding of the scientific facts will result in more enlightened governance by our democratic governing body.

The question we should all ask ourselves then, as young and empowered citizens, is: how do we cultivate scientific literacy? And better yet, how can we take advantage of our time at Middlebury to aid us in this cultivation?

FOR THE RECORD

BY CHAD CLEMENS

If there is one thing the music world could have counted on for 2013, it was that surely, at some point, eventually, Arcade Fire would release a new album. Since 2004's insta-classic debut *Funeral* redefined the indie landscape with gusto and grandeur, few things have been more certain than a (roughly) three-year wait period between releases: 2007 gave birth to *Neon Bible* and 2010 was blessed with *The Suburbs*.

So when July rolled around and Arcade Fire decided to inform the world of an October 28th release date for their newest album via Twitter, I groaned with exasperation — "Yeezus Christ, it's about time!" — rather than gasped with excitement. I've come to expect nothing short of greatness from arguably the best band of the 21st century, and the announcement felt sort of cheap yet ultimately inconsequential. Insignificant, even — that is, until the album's meaning surfaces.

Thematically, Arcade Fire is no stranger to tackling darker topics than most modern rock bands. Death and loneliness, paranoia and crises of faith, internal degradation at the hands of stifling suburbia: not too uncommon, yet not the easiest to digest. *Reflektor*, however, takes on more ambitious influences of Greek mythology and existentialist philosophy to comment on the disconnect and isolation between contemporary human beings

apparently brought about by society's 'reflectors,' whatever those are. Win mostly laments about his inability to fully 'get' the depth and complexities of his opposite — either Eurydice or Joan of Arc, depending on the song — and not so much on the factors of life that invariably cause such distortions in perception and human understanding, as the album's title would suggest. Thus resurfaces that peculiar decision to disclose the release date via Twitter all those months ago. They could not have missed the irony, could they? The irony of unveiling their treatise on interpersonal barriers and remoteness through one of the premier driving forces of cheapening communication? Maybe their irony was purposeful? I sure hope so.

Now on to the music.

A sprawling, 85 minute two-disc epic, *Reflektor* boasts an indescribable sound, but I will try my best to explain: Haitian-inspired rhythms carrying Krautrock and disco-fused beats, underscored by steady clave percussion tempos, pierced by jangly guitars, enveloped in ambient haze and peppered with just about every other instrument imaginable. It is Bowie meets LCD Soundsystem meets Talking Heads meets Afro-pop (also known as the entire

foundation of popular music). Each song is an intricate orchestral masterpiece, lavish yet unimposing, an accomplishment in and of itself, densely arranged and fully satiating with eight of twelve clocking in at over five minutes apiece.

Yet, within such vast length lays the problem: whatever argument Win was attempting to make with his record could have been achieved easily in twenty fewer minutes. At a certain point, *Reflektor* becomes too much to handle in a single listen, and a cut or two regrettably become a substitute for the completed and immensely beautiful picture. The title track probably could have expunged a few instances of the (50-time) repeated phrase "it's just a reflector" without losing significance or meaning. "Afterlife" similarly falters when it so desperately holds on to its "work it out/scream and shout" rhyme scheme for far too long, slightly marring an otherwise perfect (and I mean perfect) song. "Supersymmetry" didn't need the last four minutes and Arcade Fire knows it — they were a purely extraneous indulgence.

While Arcade Fire has mastered the harmony of an ever-elusive and evolving sound while retaining a distinctive, unmistakable edge, *Reflektor* does contain a

couple stylistic miscues. Notably absent is a lead vocal contribution of Régine Chasange, whose steady yet potent alto normally provides a refreshing break from Win's sometimes too-unsubtle pretension.

Also, a few songs contain seemingly paradoxical arrangements that hit the ear just the slightest bit off. Whereas "Normal Person" and "You Already Know" display the gradual and climactically concluding structure for which Arcade Fire is known, "Here Comes the Night Time" sort of devolves into a gentle piano riff in place of the bombastic escalation one would expect. "It's Never Over (Oh Orpheus)" sheds the momentum it should have maintained, or at least revisited, halfway through. "Porno" hints at something great but instead drags on for an extra minute before suddenly cutting off like the Sopranos finale before bringing the whole thing home.

Reflektor is indeed a lot to swallow. But otherwise, the album is simply incredible. Unfathomably good. Spectacularly crafted. Superbly produced (thank heavens for James Murphy and his brilliance inside a studio). I amend my earlier thought and assert that, with the release of *Reflektor*, Arcade Fire is, without a doubt, the best band of the 21st century. If you haven't yet listened (twice, thrice, ad nauseum) I wouldn't waste another minute depriving yourself.

REFLEKTOR

Arcade Fire

WHAT DO YOU WANT TO SEE HERE?
DON'T JUST TELL US, WRITE FOR US.
THE CAMPUS IS NOW LOOKING FOR WRITERS FOR ALL SECTIONS.
INTERESTED? GREAT! EMAIL CAMPUS@MIDDLEBURY.EDU

Foote Sets Touchdown Record in Victory

By Damon Hatheway

With Middlebury trailing 24-20 and facing fourth-and-goal from the Trinity seven-yard line with less than 90 seconds remaining in the game, quarterback McCallum Foote '14 connected with wide receiver Matt Minno '16 in the end zone to give the Panthers the lead. 1:12 later, first-year cornerback Nate Leedy '17 sealed Middlebury's 27-24 victory with a leaping interception at the goal line as time expired, sending a capacity Homecoming crowd into delirium.

The victory improved the Panthers to 5-1, giving Middlebury an outside shot at a NESCAC title, while knocking the Bantams (5-1) off their undefeated pedestal and ending Trinity's 14-game winning streak. Entering Saturday's game, Trinity had won nine of the past 11 meetings between the two teams, including the past two by a combined score of 87-14.

Undeterred by past performances, Middlebury drove the length of the field on its first drive, as Foote completed five of seven attempts for 49 yards, culminating in a seven-yard touchdown pass to Minno — a play call the Panthers would return to on the game-winning score.

The touchdown pass was Foote's 12th of the season and 63rd of his career, breaking the previous program record of 62 set by Donnie McKillop '11.

"Mac really deserves it," said Minno the NESCAC Co-Offensive Player of the Week, who caught nine passes for 110 yards and two touchdowns. "He's the one who makes the offense tick, and he's played at such an unbelievable level for so long for this program."

Defensively, the Panthers limited Trinity to just 67-first quarter yards on three, futile possessions as the Bantams struggled to move the ball against a stiff wind and a stingier Middlebury defense that held the Bantam offense, which entered the game averaging over 230 rushing yards per game, to just 3.3 yards per carry and 148 total rushing yards.

"We had guys making plays all over the field," Matt Benedict '16 said. "We were more physical with them this year than last

year. I thought last year we kind of shied away. This year we punched them in the mouth and gave it right back to them and they didn't like it."

Benedict led the way from his free safety position, racking up 19 tackles over the course of the game and winning NESCAC Defensive Player of the Week for his efforts.

"Matt's just a smart, smart player — maybe the most coachable player I've ever coached," said defensive coordinator Doug Mandigo. "He's not the most gifted athlete, but he's an incredibly sharp kid. You can give information [on what the opposing offense is going to do] and he takes advantage of it and that's why he makes plays."

Turnovers and missed opportunities, however, threatened to derail Middlebury following the opening-drive touchdown. On their second drive of the game, the Panthers appeared to stall at their own 28-yard line as a personal foul forced Middlebury to punt on fourth-and-21. What could have been disastrous for Middlebury turned into the miraculous as a high snap forced punter Mike Dola '15 to pull the ball back from an oncoming Trinity rusher and, with a convoy of blockers in front of him, the 6'2", 210-pound specialist rumbled for a 23-yard gain and a first down. The Panthers failed to capitalize on the special teams swing, however, as Dola pulled a 24-yard field goal attempt wide left later in the drive.

The game became more precarious from there as Foote threw a pair of interceptions inside Middlebury territory on consecutive possessions that led to 10 Trinity points in the form of a four-yard Ben Crick touchdown run and a 37-yard Ben Rosenblatt field goal.

Trailing for the first time in the game, Foote and the offense responded with an 11-play, 71-yard touchdown drive that culminated with a 17-yard strike from Foote to his tight end Billy Sadik-Khan '14. The drive started with a 17-yard carry from running back Ryan Hislop '15, who started in place of injured teammates Matt Rea '14 and Joey Zekowitz '17. Hislop, who entered the game with just 39 career rushing yards, carried the ball 19 times for 68 yards and provided crucial pass protection for Foote.

"He upped his game for that day," said head coach Bob Ritter. "Once he had some contact and was in the moment he ran really hard with his shoulders perpendicular to the sideline, to get north-south to get everything he could and always fell forward."

Middlebury's lead was short-lived, however. Trinity enjoyed its first sustained drive of the half with 5:24 remaining, as Crick found pay dirt for the second time in the game, this time from 15 yards out after a 12-play drive that chewed up 4:46 of clock and giving Trinity a 17-14 halftime lead.

Middlebury took the opening drive of the second half and marched deep into Trinity territory, Foote notably keeping the drive alive with a 17-yard completion to wide receiver Grant Luna '17 on fourth-and-six from the Bantams' 19-yard line. However, two negative plays forced the Panthers to settle for a 28-yard Dola field goal that tied the game at 17 apiece.

Playing against the wind in the third quarter, the Panthers managed to outgain Trinity 123-13, blanking the Bantams and sending the game into the final frame tied at 17.

17 seconds in the fourth quarter, Dola broke the tie, splitting the uprights on a 37-yard field goal — now kicking with the wind at his back — to give Middlebury a 20-17 lead.

On the ensuing drive, Trinity threatened to take the lead as quarterback Sonny Puzzo and Evan Bunker, the conference's leading rusher, orchestrated a 27-yard screen pass that nearly went the distance. Bunker appeared to be stopped short of midfield after he was upended by a pair of Middlebury defenders, but managed to land on his feet and regain his momentum. Alertly, first-year linebacker Addison Pierce '17 dragged him down from behind at the 50-yard line to save a touchdown. Pierce finished the game with 10 tackles, none bigger than the play on Bunker.

On the subsequent series, Jake Clapp '16 chased down Puzzo from the blindside, sacking him for a loss of six yards and forcing Trinity to punt. The Middlebury offense managed just one first down, however, before Dola came on to the field to punt for just the second time, downing Trinity inside its 20-yard line with a 43-yard boot.

The Bantams, who had just two plays longer than 15 yards through the first three quarters, finally found a rhythm in the passing game. Facing second-and-15 from the 10-yard line, Puzzo connected on a 34-yard pass to Chris Ragone — the NESCAC leader in yards per reception. The two hooked up five plays later as Ragone arced the ball over the coverage for a 39-yard throw and catch, giving Trinity a 24-20 lead with 4:52 remaining and silencing the Homecoming crowd.

The Panthers began the following drive with a pair of Hislop runs, good 21 yards, followed by a Foote five-yard scramble for another first down to the Trinity 35-yard line. Again, however, the Middlebury offense, which had managed just two second half field goals, stalled, turning the ball over on downs with 2:50 left in the

game.

"Even though we didn't score, when Trinity played prevent Hislop ripped off a couple of 10-yard runs and it kept them out of prevent in the next series," Ritter said.

Needing to force a three-and-out to give the offense the ball back with a chance to win the game, the Middlebury defense stuffed Bunker on three straight carries and preserved the clock by burning all three timeouts.

"Ultimately for them to win the game, they had to run the ball to get a first down, and our guys stepped up," Ritter said.

Following a 40-yard Kyle Pulek punt, Foote and the offense took the field at their own 25-yard line, needing to drive 75 yards in 2:21 to win the game. The Middlebury receivers won on their routes immediately and the offense quickly moved the ball into Trinity territory. Ritter then dialed up an out-and-go route for wide receiver Brendan Rankowitz '15 who hauled in Foote's touch throw in between the corner and the safety for a 40-yard reception down to the Trinity seven-yard line.

The Panthers, who had converted less than 54 percent of previous red zone drives into touchdowns, failed to find the end zone on three straight plays, setting up a decisive fourth-and-goal play from the seven-yard line.

"We have our call sheet and the plays that you run from the seven-yard line and in, but it's a tough place for us, given our offense," Ritter said. "We had a couple of things that didn't work and then on fourth down it ended up being the same play and the same pattern that we scored our first touchdown on."

With time in the pocket, Foote surveyed the defense, held the defense on one side of the field with his eyes and connected with Minno, his intended target pre-snap, on a crossing route between the corner and the linebacker.

"They brought both safeties over to the front side and the quick look I had to the front side was really just looking away — I knew I was coming back to Matt," he said. "Their linebackers split and he made an unbelievable catch going down to the ground and holding onto the ball."

Now trailing by four with 1:12 remaining, Trinity moved the ball to the Middlebury 33-yard line on 12 plays, setting up the final play of the game with 6.5 seconds left. Leedy, playing the deep third to the boundary side of the field kept his eyes in the backfield, broke on the throw and intercepted the football at the goal line — the first takeaway of his career providing an emphatic finish to the game.

"They hadn't thrown the ball to my side all game, so I figured they'd try to take a shot and right before the play Tim Patricia '16 said, 'Here you go, they're coming right at you,'" Leedy said. "The receiver did a double move to try to get me to bite on something, but I knew they were going to the end zone and I saw the ball in the air before the receiver and I made a play on the ball."

The Panthers, who need to win out for a shot at a NESCAC title, plays their final home game of the season on Saturday, Nov. 2 against Hamilton (0-6).

FOOTBALL

by the numbers

19

the number of tackles totaled by NESCAC Defensive Player of the Week Matt Benedict '15

23

of rushing yards by Middlebury punter Mike Dola '15

28

of rushing yards by NESCAC rushing leader Evan Bunker (Trinity)

33

the number of career touchdowns thrown by McCallum Foote '14, A NEW PROGRAM RECORD

65

the number of receiving yards recorded by NESCAC co-offensive player of the week, Matt Minno '16

110

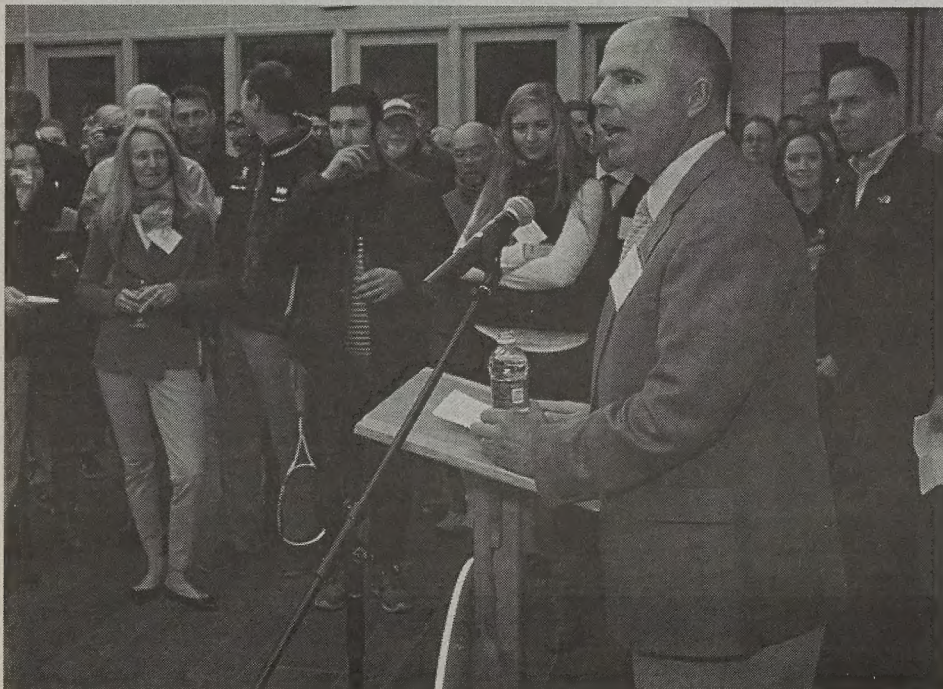
the number of receiving yards recorded by NESCAC co-offensive player of the week, Matt Minno '16

<135

Trinity entered the game allowing on average fewer than 135 yards per game

hear the player's thoughts online at go/thecampus

SQUASH COURT OPENING



COURTESY TODD BALFOUR

The Middlebury men's squash team and head coach John Illig (above) pose on Wilson Court in the brand new squash center, opened on Saturday, Oct. 26. Director of Athletics Erin Quinn (left) introduces the new facility, which was funded entirely by donors, to current and former members of the program and their families. Each of the facility's nine courts, whose floors were imported from Germany.

Women's Soccer Extends Unbeaten Streak

By Alex Morris

The Middlebury women's soccer team finished the regular season at the top of the NESCAC, remaining unbeaten in its past 13 games. The Panthers capped off a successful fall break with a 1-0 win over Bates on Saturday, Oct. 19 before besting Williams in a thriller on Tuesday, Oct. 22 and finishing off with a tie against Wesleyan on Saturday, Oct. 26.

Middlebury cruised to a comfortable victory against Bates, with Julia Favorito '14 scoring the only goal of the game in the 53rd minute for her fourth tally of the season. On the play, Jamie Soroka '16 originally fired a shot at goal that was parried away by Bates goalkeeper Anabel Schmelz. As the ball remained loose in the box, the rebound found Favorito who slotted the ball into the bottom right corner.

The visitors kept the pressure on after the goal, as Scarlett Kirk '14 recorded three of her game-high eight shots in a five-minute period, underlining a bigger trend of the game of being unable to capitalize on numerous created chances.

Bates almost found an equalizer in the

86th minute after Lily Peterson nodded in a cross from Leah Humes, but the Bobcat was deemed offside.

The Panthers carried the momentum from the win against Bates into a season-defining game against Williams. At the start of the first half, both teams failed to establish a dominant presence, with much of the battle being fought in the midfield. Williams failed to capitalize on three straight corner kicks while Kirk saw her powerful strike just graze over the crossbar in the 38th minute to leave the score goalless at the half.

The second half again provided few scoring chances, as the game looked like it was proceeding into overtime. However, with just 50 seconds left on the clock, Carter Talgo '15 played a ball up the left side to Kirk who ran onto the ball just inside the box. The striker coolly chipped a shot over the oncoming Williams' keeper to claim a last minute victory for her team. The win ensured the Panthers the top spot in the NESCAC and a quarterfinal on home turf.

"It felt good [to score the winning goal], mostly because I was just relieved that we wouldn't have to go into overtime," Kirk said. "It was a very hard fought game and

we were all getting tired by the end of the game. Carter took the ball all the way up the field and her perfect pass made it a very easy finish for me."

Middlebury held a 13-4 shot advantage in the game as Elizabeth Foody '14 made three stops in goals for her seventh shutout of the season.

Middlebury was unable to add another win to its record and had to settle for a 1-1 tie at Wesleyan. The Cardinals controlled the play for much of the first half and were especially boosted by an early penalty miss by the Panthers. Moria Sloan '14 was unable to find a way past Wesleyan keeper Jessica Tollman who assertively knocked her shot away. The Cardinals used the momentum to score less than five minutes later. Sarah Sylla took a hard crossing pass from Hannah Stone and banged it low to the right of Foody.

The Panthers came out of the break unshaken from Wesleyan's goal, and scored less than six minutes into the second half. Soroka beat the Cardinal defense and slid a shot past Tollman. Soroka continued to dominate the Wesleyan defense, but both teams were unable to break the deadlock in the final minutes. Middlebury had only two

shots in overtime with neither team able to mount a sustained attack.

Head coach Peter Kim is looking for his team to continue doing the little things right such as playing as a unit and solid defense, while learning from mistakes made in the previous games.

"Looking ahead to Saturday, we want to play beautifully while generating more quality goal scoring opportunities," Kim said. "Every team we could face has a strong back line and excellent goalkeeping, so we'll need to up our attacking game in order to earn the win."

The Panthers return to action on Saturday, Oct. 2 in the NESCAC quarterfinal against the eighth seed. Despite claiming the top seed, Kim is cautious of expectations.

"It's always nice to earn the regular season title," Kim said. "However, we've been here before and know that our seeding doesn't mean anything. 'We're in it to win it, and will have a very strong opponent in the first round of the NESCAC tournament, regardless of who takes the eighth seed.'"

The conference tournament opens up this weekend, with NESCAC quarterfinals slated for this coming Saturday, Nov. 2.

Field Hockey Beats Wesleyan 3-1; Captures Fourth Seed in NESCAC

By John Wyman

Hannah Deoul '14 and Chrissy Ritter '16 invigorated a second half masterpiece against Wesleyan on Saturday Oct. 26 to win the game by a final score of 3-1 and clinch the fourth seed in the NESCAC tournament with a 12-2 record. Catherine Fowler '15 knocked in her 17th goal of the year and supreme passer Alyssa DiMaio '15 factored into two of the scoring plays. The team rides a five-game win streak into the NESCAC playoffs, which begin for Middlebury at home on Saturday, Nov. 2.

Wesleyan took the lead 22 minutes into the game on a fluky bouncing goal that nonetheless heated the stove top coils underneath the visiting Middlebury team. Five seconds before halftime, when it looked like the Panthers would sulk into halftime to receive another rousing speech, the ball struck a Wesleyan foot and gave Middlebury a last-second penalty corner opportunity. Bridget Instrum '16 took a strong hit from up top that squirted away from the goalie and right to Fowler for a buzzer-beating goal. The crucial score changed the tune of the game.

"Everyone was so excited running out that it felt like we won the game," laughed the goal-scorer, Fowler.

The Panthers have struggled to gain leads in the first thirty-five minutes of

games all season, scoring only 22 first-half goals of their total 53. Captain Ellie O'Brien '14 emphasized starting strong as a focal point moving into the elimination games.

"We have been a second half team for most of the year, but we need to change that," she said.

When play resumed, the speed of substitutes Ritter and Deoul scorched the Wesleyan defense for two important goals, while the defense kept goalie Emily Knapp '15 comfortably out of work. On the first strike, DiMaio unlocked the Wesleyan defense with a long cross-field pass to a streaking Ritter, who connected with Deoul on the back post for the score, executing head coach Katharine DeLorenzo's halftime coaching adjustment.

"It was great because coach DeLorenzo told us at halftime that the lane was open if we could move the ball quickly enough, then Alyssa just did it perfectly," said proud teammate Anna Kenyon '16.

O'Brien also praised Coach DeLorenzo for adjusting the defensive responsibilities of the forward players to generate a more composed attack.

"Last week in practice Coach realized that the forwards were running back too much on defense, and it was affecting our offensive touches," she said.

By remaining farther up field against

Wesleyan, the forwards opened more space for quick transition passes.

Minutes later, DiMaio found Ritter again with a slick backhand pass, and this time Ritter rocked it from the offensive arc into the back of the cage for her first goal of the season.

"We have such a deep bench, it's great to be able to play our same game no matter who's in," Fowler said. "Anyone can do anything, really."

In addition to having highly capable players, the Middlebury sideline also composes the leagues highest-decibel cheering section whose well of positivity can be partially credited for all of the clutch goals and come from behind wins on the year.

"We talk about the phrase 'reflective glory,'" said captain Deidre Miller '15, "when someone makes a phenomenal play, everyone on the sideline gets fired up—and the players get more energy from that fire too. It's definitely a two-way relationship."

The team looks ahead to the quarterfinal round of the NESCAC playoffs on Saturday Nov. 2 just like any other game.

When asked to reflect on the completed season, Lauren Berestecky '17 responded, "It doesn't feel like the season is over at all," then added with a comedic seriousness, "It's only just beginning."

THE MIDDLEBURY GREAT GR8 EIGHT

RANKING CHANGE TEAM Owen's Opinions

- MEN'S RUGBY**
6-0 and repeat conference champs. MCRC's got it.
- FOOTBALL**
And a merry Homecoming to everyone!
- WOMEN'S SOCCER**
This team hasn't lost since its season opener, going 10-0-3 in that span.
- FIELD HOCKEY**
Five straight wins and this team is getting in gear.
- MEN'S SOCCER**
A loss to Wesleyan stops a five-game streak.
- CROSS COUNTRY**
Not competing last week really hurt them in my book.
- VOLLEYBALL**
An up-and-down October checks them in at seven.
- HAPPY HALLOWEEN**
Big night tonight! Don't accept any candy from strangers.

Volleyball Suffers in NESCAC Play; Currently 3-5

By Ben Buckles

The Middlebury volleyball team suffered a tough set of losses over the fall break as the Panthers first dropped a match against Connecticut College 3-1 on Friday, Oct. 18 and then lost 3-2 at Tufts the next day. Middlebury rebounded the following week with a 3-0 win against Plymouth State a 3-1 win over M.I.T. On Saturday, Oct. 26, they split a pair of decisions, gaining revenge on Amherst for the loss earlier in the season with a 3-2 win before losing to Springfield 3-0 as part of the Hall of Fame Classic, hosted by Smith College and Mount Holyoke.

Unfortunately, even with the over Amherst, Middlebury (16-6, 3-5 in NESCAC) lost ground in the conference.

The Panthers loss against Conn. College was particularly disappointing. The Camels, who currently sit at 11-11 overall and 5-4 in the NESCAC, have had an up and down season, and the matchup looked to be winnable for Middlebury.

However, Conn. College came out firing, and beat Middlebury on the first set with a close score of 25-23. The Panthers responded,

pouncing on the Camels for a dominant second set win with a score of 25-12. The Camels got over the hump, however, scraping out the next two sets with scores of 25-21 and 25-20. Middlebury played a much cleaner game, with only 30 total errors compared to the Camels' 42, but ultimately Conn. College did just enough to eek out the win.

"Conn. College did a better job terminating the point than we did during those long rallies, and in combination with our own unforced errors we couldn't make up for that," Olivia Kolodka '15 said.

The next day Middlebury dropped an even closer match against Tufts by a score of 3-2. The teams were neck and neck the entire way, with Middlebury earning a first-set victory by a score of 26-24, dropping the second 25-15, answering in the third with their own 25-15 win, then dropping a nail-biting fourth set 27-25. In the fifth set—played to 15—Middlebury could not muster a victory, falling 15-6.

Tufts is having a similar season to Middlebury, sitting at 17-7 on the season. However, he head-to-head victory improved the Jumbos to 6-3 in NESCAC play, while relegating Middlebury to seventh in the

conference standings.

The Panthers were hungry for success as they served up the Hall of Fame Classic, which they began with a 3-1 win over M.I.T.

While the game proved to be more of a grind than their previous win — a 3-0 blanking of Plymouth State — Middlebury took control after a close 26-28 loss in the first set. After a comfortable 25-12, second-set victory, the Panthers took two close sets with wins of 25-21 and 26-24 in the third and fourth sets, respectively. Middlebury posted an impressive serving game with only two errors and 12 aces.

The next day, Saturday, Oct. 26, Middlebury would earn one of their most satisfying wins of the season, before being swept by an out-of-conference opponent. The trio of games made up the Hall of Fame Classic, which was co-hosted by Smith and Mount Holyoke.

The matchup with Amherst was a back-and-forth affair as the Panthers and Lord Jeffs traded wins and losses set for set. Middlebury won the first and third with scores of 25-21 and 30-28, respectively. Amherst took the second and fourth sets 18-25 and 22-25.

Middlebury finally sealed the win with a 15-11 final set victory. Captains Megan Jarchow '14 and Amy Hart '14 exploded for 20 and 19 kills, respectively. Lizzy Reed '15 put up a very impressive 30 digs, leading the Panthers' defense.

"Our senior leadership is a key factor ... we also have a very balanced offensive attack," said head coach Sarah Raunecker. "We've been getting good productivity out of Piper Underbrink '15 in the middle, and both Olivia [Kolodka] and Melanie English '17 have proven to be effective hitters and very good blockers."

Unfortunately Middlebury failed to carry their momentum into the next game, and were swept by Springfield 3-0. Middlebury did their best to keep it close, but lost all three sets 21-25, 19-25 and 15-25, respectively. The Panthers only had a team total of 25 digs, less than Reed's individual effort the game before. The loss was a blemish on an otherwise promising week.

Now, sitting at 3-5 in NESCAC play and in seventh place, Middlebury will look to even their conference record over the final two games against Bowdoin on Friday, Nov. 1 and

BC Blowout Clinches MCRC Perfect Season

By Owen Teach

On the final week of its regular season schedule, the Middlebury College Rugby Club (MCRC) traveled to Boston College on Saturday, Oct. 26 with the hopes of securing an unbeaten record and knocking off the only side to beat the Panthers last season. In yet another dominant display in the club's impressive season, MCRC battled gusty conditions to down the Eagles 35-15 and to cement a 6-0 regular season record.

Despite the win against BC, the Panthers had already secured their second straight East Coast Rugby Conference championship following a 78-22 thrashing of the University of Albany the previous week on October 19. By virtue of the club securing a "bonus point" — or an additional point in the conference standings by scoring four tries in a win — in each of its first five wins of the season, MCRC distanced itself enough from second-place American International College through only five games.

For co-captain Ben Stasiuk '13.5, the title-clinching win against Albany offered little distraction to the team as it prepared for BC.

"We didn't even really mention winning the conference at all in our practices or meeting leading up to the game," he said. "Actually winning the conference last week was kind of anticlimactic — we just checked Twitter feeds online of another game and realized that we

won. I think everyone, after losing to BC last year, was 100 percent focused on that game. Last year was a devastating loss and, in terms of preparation, winning the conference didn't faze us. I think we all felt like we would not have won unless we beat BC and had a perfect season, which we did."

Assistant Coach Junior Tuigere also touched on the importance of the BC contest to the side.

"The current seniors had never beaten BC, so they had this urgent drive to beat them for the first time," Tuigere said. "Their sense of urgency and desire to [beat BC] pushed the whole team to accomplish this goal."

Last November, the Eagles handed the Panthers a 13-11 loss and derailed MCRC's potent offense in the process. On Saturday, however, Stasiuk pointed to several factors that allowed Middlebury to dominate the contest.

"Overall our team is better this year than we were last year especially in our forwards, where we are bigger, stronger and well-disciplined compared to last year," Stasiuk said. "Similar to last year, we got railed pretty hard with 15 penalties in the first half. Last year we got really frustrated, and we didn't make the changes necessary to adapt to the ref to change the game around. This year in the second half, especially in the scrum, we adjusted to stop getting the penalties and

allow ourselves to score some points. We also didn't anticipate the change of pace in last year's game. BC is a very 'crash ball,' attacking team and we weren't as ready for it last year as we were this year. The week before the game we practiced defending forwards game oriented rugby and we played well."

Tuigere also pointed to penalties as a decisive trend in this year's game.

"We started out the game by allowing BC to dictate the pace of the game as we were 'trying too hard,'" he said. "As a result we made some silly errors and infringements that led to penalties. During half time we adjusted our game plan to go back to basics and do all of the little things correctly. This showed in our second half performance."

Co-captain Allan Stafford '13.5 offered another explanation for the change in results.

"I don't think BC's team was as good this year as they were last year," Stafford said. "Their tackling last year was amazing while this year we broke through a lot of tackles. This year we are just a better team overall, all the way through."

That assertion is highlighted in the team's point differential on the season, far and away the most lopsided in the conference. The Panthers, with 305 points in six games on season and only 74 points against, boasted both the league's most potent offense and stingiest defense. By comparison AIC, the

league's next highest-scoring side, put up 170 points.

Furthermore last year's team, while finishing as 5-1 conference champs, played a number of games decided by two points or less. This year, MCRC never won by less than 16 points.

A quick glance at the ECRC's individual scoring leaders tells part of the story, as the top three scorers in the conference come from Middlebury. Jake Feury '16 finished with a whopping 110 points (including 13 tries), while Adam Schreiber's '14 43 points and Stafford's 40 round out the leaderboard.

As the team shifts its focus to a national tournament that kicks off on November 16, Assistant Coach Ben Wells reflected on the undefeated regular season and its implications for MCRC's place in D1-AA.

"I think that two straight ECRC championships, which means back-to-back trips to the National playoffs, shows that we belong in this division, which a lot of people disagreed with when we made the move in 2011," said Wells. "Every time we participate in a national tournament it helps with our recruiting as many high school rugby players have never heard of Middlebury."

"The trajectory for the club is straight up," Stasiuk said. "Some great young leaders on the team have us on a path of greatness for a while."

Men's Soccer Falls in Final Game Against Cardinals

By Joe MacDonald

The Middlebury men's soccer team had their five-game winning streak snapped in their conference regular season finale with a 1-0 loss at Wesleyan on Saturday, Oct. 26. The streak began with a doubleheader two weeks ago at home against Trinity and Hamilton, continued with a conference win on the road at Bates 2-1 on Saturday, Oct. 19, and finished with two dismantlings of in-state opponents, Castleton State and Southern Vermont, by a total score of 14-1.

The Cardinals (7-5-1 overall, 6-3 in the NESCAC) bested the Panthers (8-4-1, 5-4-1) by a slim margin on a heart-breaking goal. As usual, the Panthers outshot their opponent (9-8), but Wesleyan took the only shot that found the twine. A direct kick from Wesleyan's Omar Bravo slipped through the hands of Panther keeper Ethan Collins '14 and found the foot of Ben Bratt who finished effectively to give the Cardinals the lead with just 14:33 left in the game.

Captain Graham Knisley '14 still has a sour taste in his mouth from Saturday's loss.

"We deserved a tie; everyone knows Wesleyan got off easy with their goal," he said. "We couldn't quite sync up in our offensive third like we have been the last few weeks. Our passing was a little off, and we weren't as creative as we should have been."

Early in the second half both teams failed to convert on good opportunities. Seven minutes in, Tyler Smith '14 headed the ball in front of the net, but Cardinal keeper Emmett

McConnell made a daring save. Shortly thereafter Bravo almost finished with a blast from inside ten yards that Collins rejected.

The game had significant repercussions on the Panthers' playoff position.

"Losing to Wesleyan was obviously frustrating because after winning five in a row we put ourselves in a great position to secure a top four finish in the league and didn't get the job done," captain Sam Peisch '14 said.

In the midst of their winning streak, Middlebury topped Bates (4-7-2, 0-7-2) 2-1 on the road on Saturday, Oct. 19 to win the Hedley Reynolds Cup, in what head coach David Seward called a "well-balanced and very competitive soccer match."

The Panthers made a lot of noise around halftime. In the 44th minute Harper Williams '14 hit an "absolute beauty," according to Knisley, from just outside the 18-yard box to give Middlebury the lead.

The Panthers added to their cushion with another Adam Glaser '17 goal in the 53rd minute with an assist from Noah Goss-Woliner '15.

Knisley had nothing but praise for the play of his teammates, Williams, Goss-Woliner and Glaser.

"Both [Williams] and [Goss-Woliner] have been playing their best soccer since they put on the Middlebury uniform two years ago," Knisley said. "It's been fun to see their progress. They've been dominating the midfield virtually every game, and as a defender for Middlebury, I've never felt more

confident in the guys playing directly in front of me."

"The first-year has proven himself to be one of the most dangerous strikers in the league," Knisley said of Glaser. "He undoubtedly has many more goals ahead of him in his career. His desire makes him a game-changer."

Tyler Grees brought the Bobcats within one with a goal in the 64th minute, but Middlebury dominated the majority of the game.

"Other than the one opportunity we gave them to score, which they unfortunately capitalized on, we outplayed them and controlled the entire game," Knisley said.

Peisch, too, was impressed with the team's effort against Bates.

"Bates was a complete team victory, top to bottom," he said.

The results of the season's final NESCAC games on Wednesday, Oct. 30 will determine Middlebury's playoff standing, but the Panthers know they are going to the playoffs. Despite coming off a tough loss, the Panthers are confident.

"There isn't a single guy on our team who doesn't believe we can win it all," Peisch said. "That has been the attitude all of us have worked hard since the end of last season to create and it remains as strong as ever."

There is an incredible amount of desire among this squad to make a run at the NESCAC championship. After a slow start that saw the Panthers sitting at 2-2-1 in the

NESCAC a week into October, the declaration from Andres Rodlauer '16 that Middlebury had best team in the NESCAC and was poised to make a run for a title seemed far-fetched. But, as the playoffs approach, the team remains confident and the men's intense belief in their own abilities creates a feeling of destiny around this squad.

"I have never been more proud to be a part of a team as I am right now with this one," Knisley said. "This is a special group."

"We are good enough to make a big run in the NESCACs," he continued, "We believe we can do it. Quite frankly, no one has more talent than we do."

BY THE NUMB3RS

17 Number of goals Catherine Fowler '15 has scored in the regular season. The junior netted one in the game against Wesleyan.

Point differential for the men's rugby team this season. The team's 305 points also were 135 from the closest opponent (AIC). **+231**

329 Number of receiving yards recorded by Calvin Johnson - seven short of an NFL record in the Lions game against the Cowboys on Sunday, Oct. 27.

Seconds left in the women's soccer game before Scarlett Kirk '14 chipped the keeper for the winning goal against Williams. **50**

12 Number of games out of 13 in which the men's soccer team has outshot its opponents.

EDITORS' PICKS



ALEX MORRIS (16-8, .667)



JOE MACDONALD (13-11, .542)



DAMON HATHEWAY (127-110, .536)



OWEN TEACH (82-82, .500)

How far will the men's soccer team go in the NESCAC tournament?

SEMIFINALS

Full of surprises, but this team still needs more consistency.

CHAMPIONSHIP

I've been covering this team all year. No doubt in my mind.

QUARTERFINALS

The Panthers play the opening round on the road, where they were 1-3-1 this season.

SEMIFINALS

For how this team finished last season, this is still something to be proud of.

Will football finish with at least a share of the NESCAC crown?

NO

Sidenote: Has anybody noticed how mean Damon gets in Editors' Picks?

YES

The Bantams will take out their anger on Amherst and Wesleyan, creating a tie at 7-1 between Midd, Wesleyan and Trinity.

NO

I think Middlebury wins out to go 7-1, but Wesleyan is a juggernaut. And Alex, it's what the people want!

NO

I hate to say it, but the loss to Amherst might come back to haunt them. I hope I'm wrong here.

Who will win World Series MVP?

BIG PAPI

I don't really know many baseball players...

BIG PAPI

Guy is hitting over .700 going into Game 6. If the Sox close it out, it's a no-brainer.

DAVID ORTIZ

Jon Lester — 16.1 innings pitched, 15 strikeouts, 0.92 ERA, two wins — deserves consideration, but that's all he's going to get.

DAVID ORTIZ

He gets better with age. Kind of like me and editors' picks.

Who will be Middlebury's top finisher at the women's cross country NESCAC championship?

SARA GUTH

These girls are legit.

SARA GUTH

I know a lot about cross country, and believe me, she will win.

SARA GUTH

There are more Saras than Erzebets, which gives Guth even greater incentive to distance herself from them.

ERZSEBET NAGY

Have you ever met anybody named Erzsebet? Neither have I, but she's fast.



UPENDED: PANTHERS KNOCK OFF UNDEFEATED BANTAMS



The football team thrilled a packed-to-the-brim Homecoming crowd at Youngman Field at Alumni Stadium on Saturday, Oct. 26, as the Panthers scored in the final 90 seconds to beat previously undefeated Trinity, 27-24, avenging a 45-7 loss in Hartford a year ago. Senior quarterback McCallum Foote '14 broke the all-time passing touchdown record, previously held by Donnie McKillop '11. Matt Minno '16 was Foote's primary target: the sophomore wideout caught nine passes for 110 yards and two touchdowns, en route to his first career NESCAC Player of the Week award. Defensively, Middlebury limited Trinity, the second leading rushing offense in the NESCAC, to 3.3 yards per carry. Free safety Matt Benedict '17 (shown above) led the way for Middlebury, recording 19 tackles and a pass breakup en route to NESCAC Defensive Player of the Week honors. **SEE FOOTE, PAGE 17**

**INSIDE
SPORTS**



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SEASON WITH BC
WIN
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